


#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR

Amulet

KAZU KIBUISHI

BOOK NINE
WAVERIDER

 SCHOLASTIC

Amulet

AMULET

KAZU KIBUISHI

Copyright © 2024 by Kazu Kibishi

All rights reserved. Published by Graphix, an imprint of Scholastic Inc.
Published since 1920, SCHOLASTIC, GRAPHIX, and associated logos are trademarks
and/or registered trademarks of Scholastic Inc.

The publisher does not have any control over and does not assume any
responsibility for author or third-party websites or their content.

All rights reserved under International and Pan-American Copyright Conventions. No part of this publication
may be reproduced, transmitted, downloaded, decompiled, reverse engineered, or stored in or introduced into any
information storage and retrieval system, in any form or by any means, whether electronic or mechanical, now known
or hereafter invented, without the express written permission of the publisher. For information regarding permission,
write to Scholastic Inc., Attention: Permissions Department, 557 Broadway, New York, NY 10012.

This book is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are either
the product of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously, and any resemblance to actual
persons, living or dead, business establishments, events, or locales is entirely coincidental.

Library of Congress Control Number: 2023034566

e-ISBN 978-0-545-82869-7

First edition, February 2024

Edited by Cassandra Felham-Fulton

Book design by Kazu Kibishi and Phil Fazio

Publisher: David Saylor

BOOK NINE WAVERIDER



AN IMPRINT OF

SCHOLASTIC

Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

The background is a deep blue, star-filled space. Large, glowing white and light blue ripples, resembling waves or gravitational waves, spread across the frame. In the bottom right, a bright, fiery orange and red object, possibly a black hole or a distant star, is visible. Four white speech bubbles with black outlines are positioned in the upper half of the image, each containing a line of text.

EVERY ACTION CREATES
A RIPPLE IN TIME AND SPACE.

EVERY RIPPLE HAS THE POTENTIAL TO
BECOME A GIANT WAVE WHEN AMPLIFIED
OUT ACROSS THE UNIVERSE.

WHAT WE DO HERE
RESONATES FAR BEYOND
OUR REACH AND VISION.

DO YOU UNDERSTAND THE
RAMIFICATIONS OF YOUR
ACTIONS, EMILY?



DO YOU UNDERSTAND
THE WEIGHT PUT UPON YOUR
SHOULDERS?

THAT'S A GOOD
QUESTION, IKOL.

HOW ABOUT
YOU?

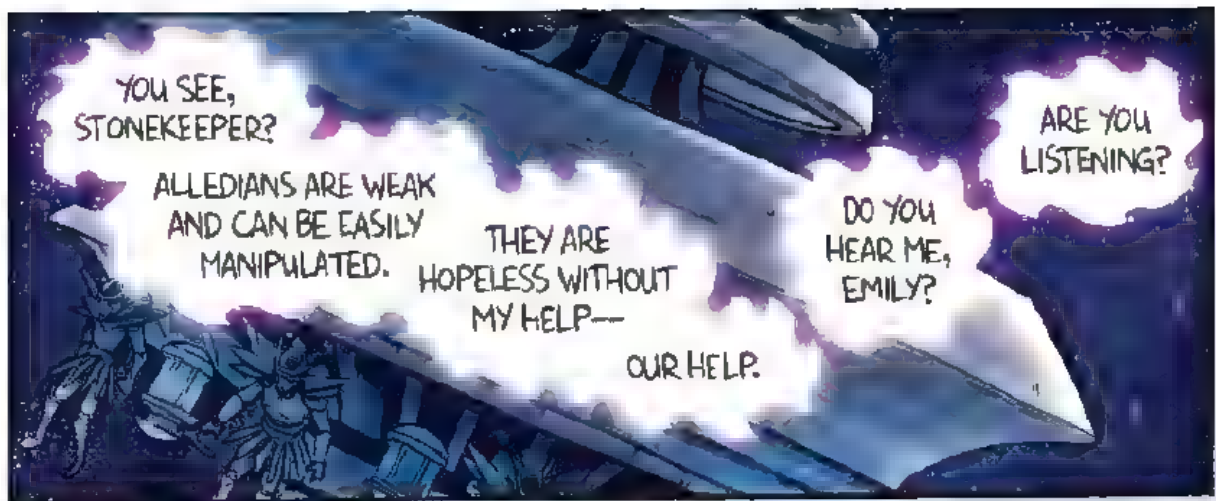












YOU SEE,
STONEKEEPER?

ALLEDIANS ARE WEAK
AND CAN BE EASILY
MANIPULATED.

THEY ARE
HOPELESS WITHOUT
MY HELP—

OUR HELP.

ARE YOU
LISTENING?

DO YOU
HEAR ME,
EMILY?



WHAT ARE
YOU DOING?

LOOKING FOR
MY FAMILY.

SUBJECT
COORDINATES
LOCATED.

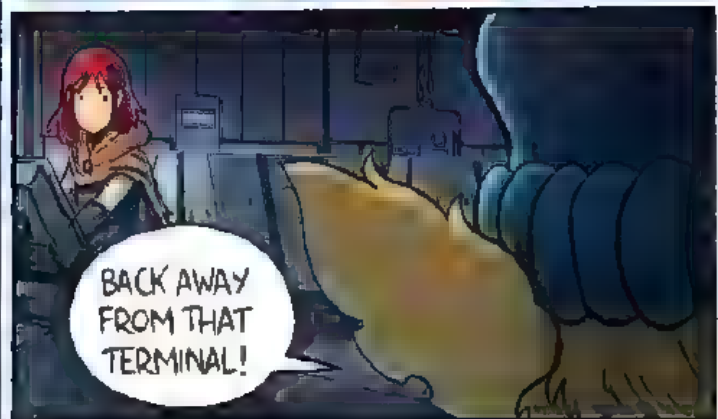
SUBJECTS
HEADING
WEST.



THEY'RE ON
THE SURFACE OF
TYPHON, DIRECTLY
BELOW US.

THAT'S WHERE
WE NEED TO GO.

HEY!

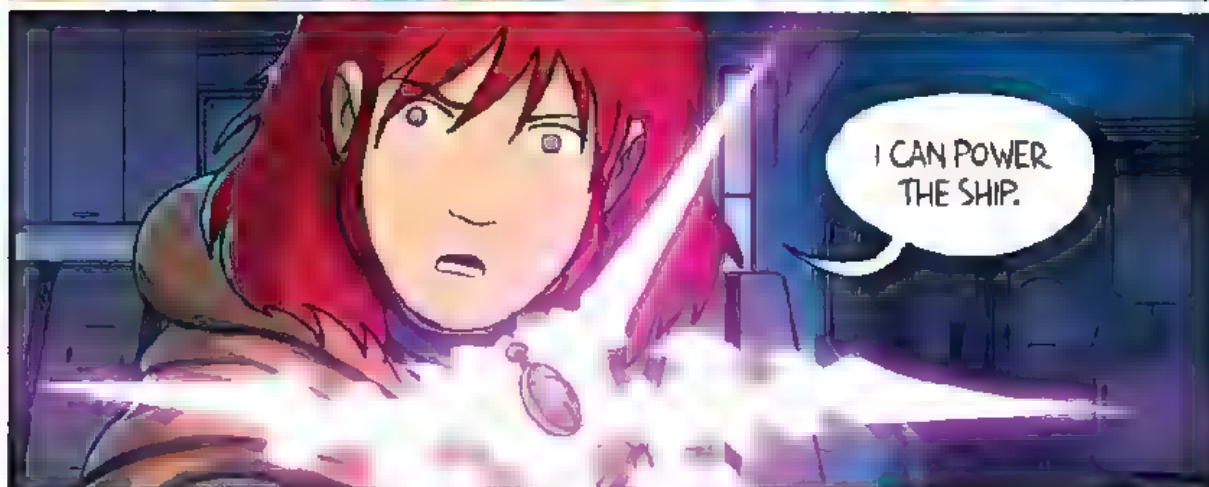
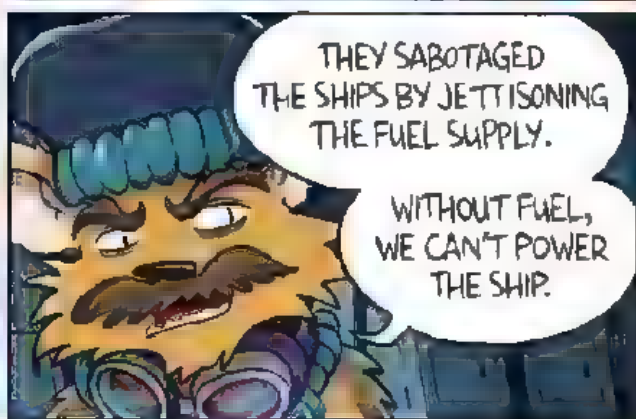
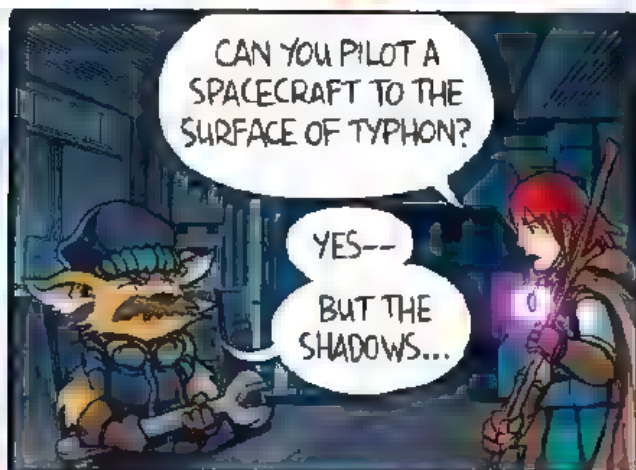
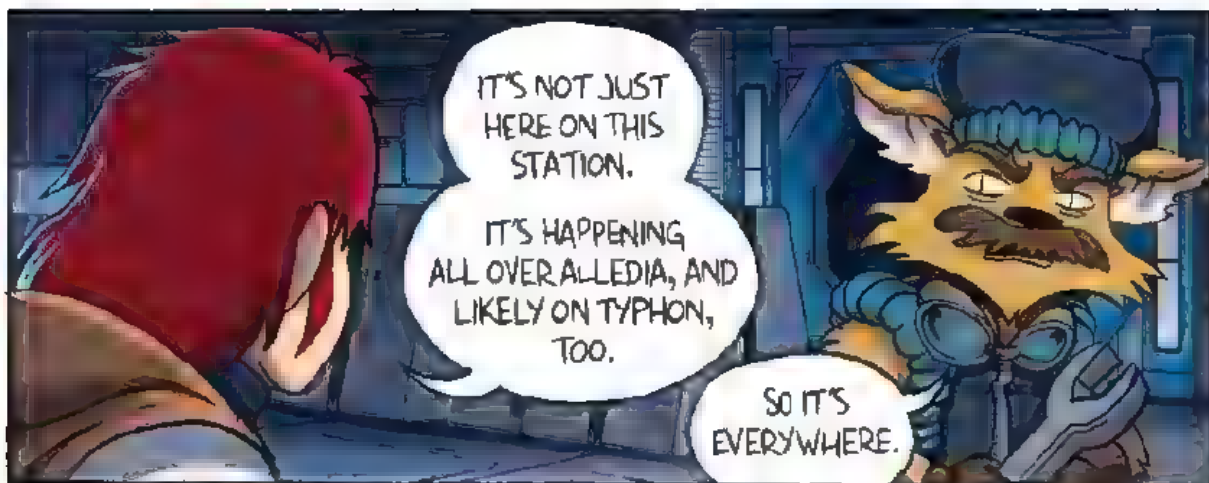


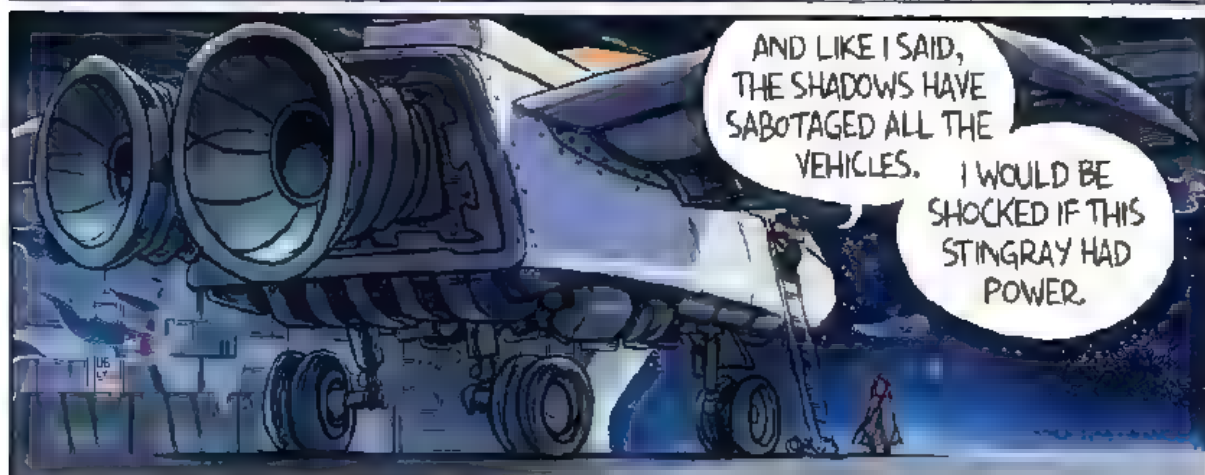
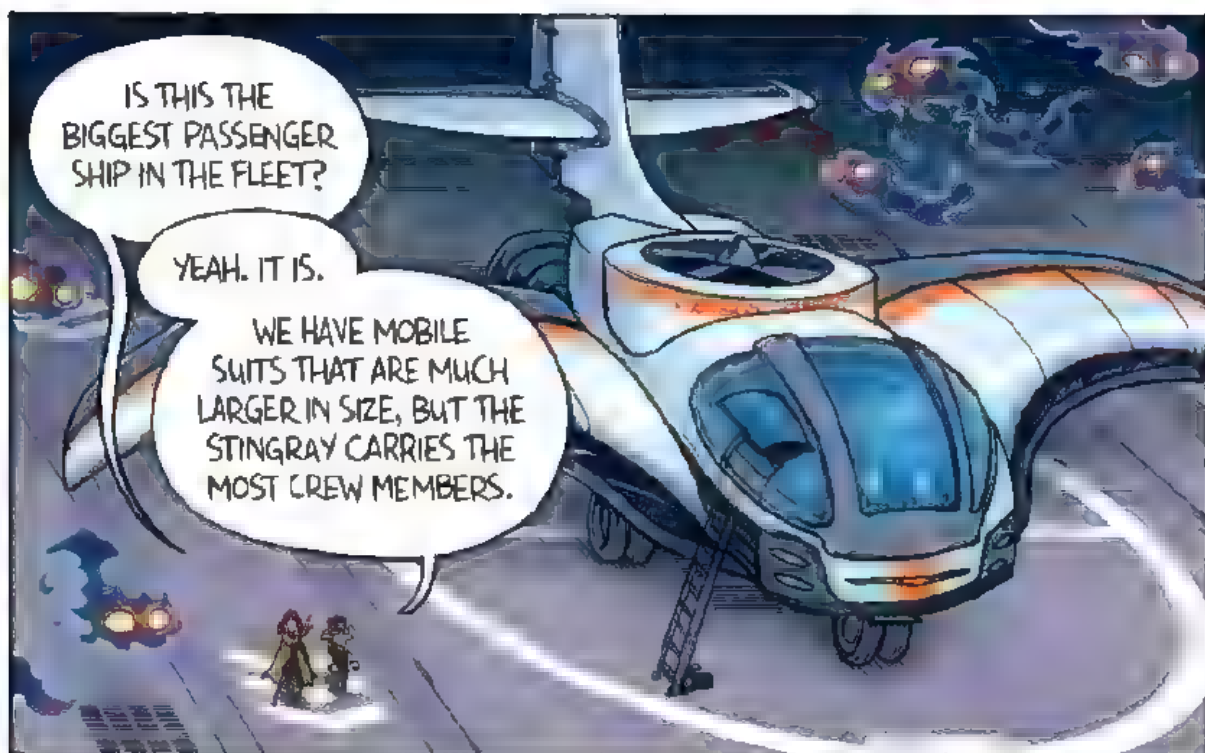
BACK AWAY
FROM THAT
TERMINAL!

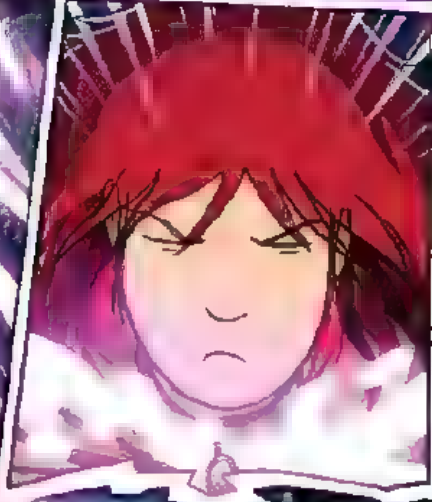
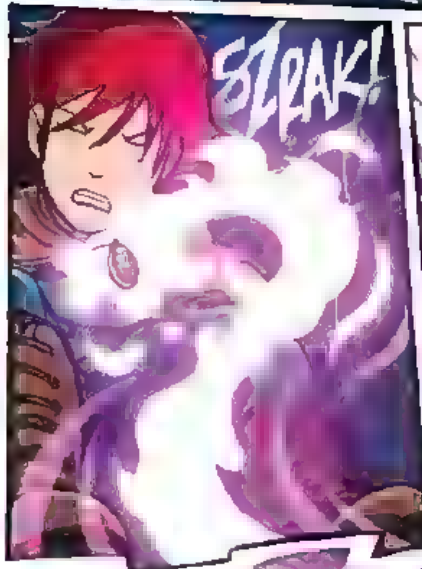
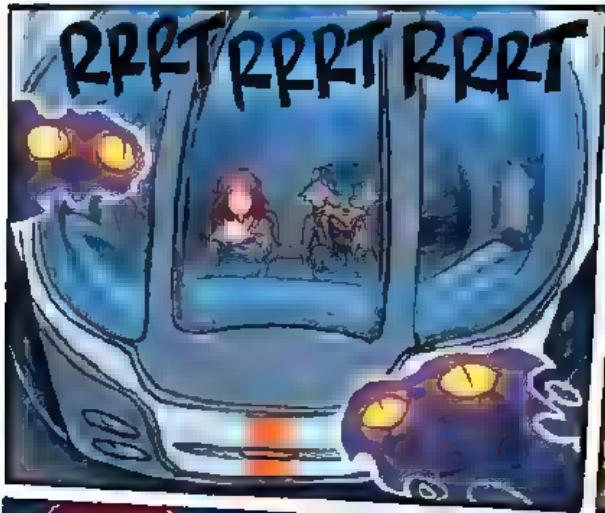


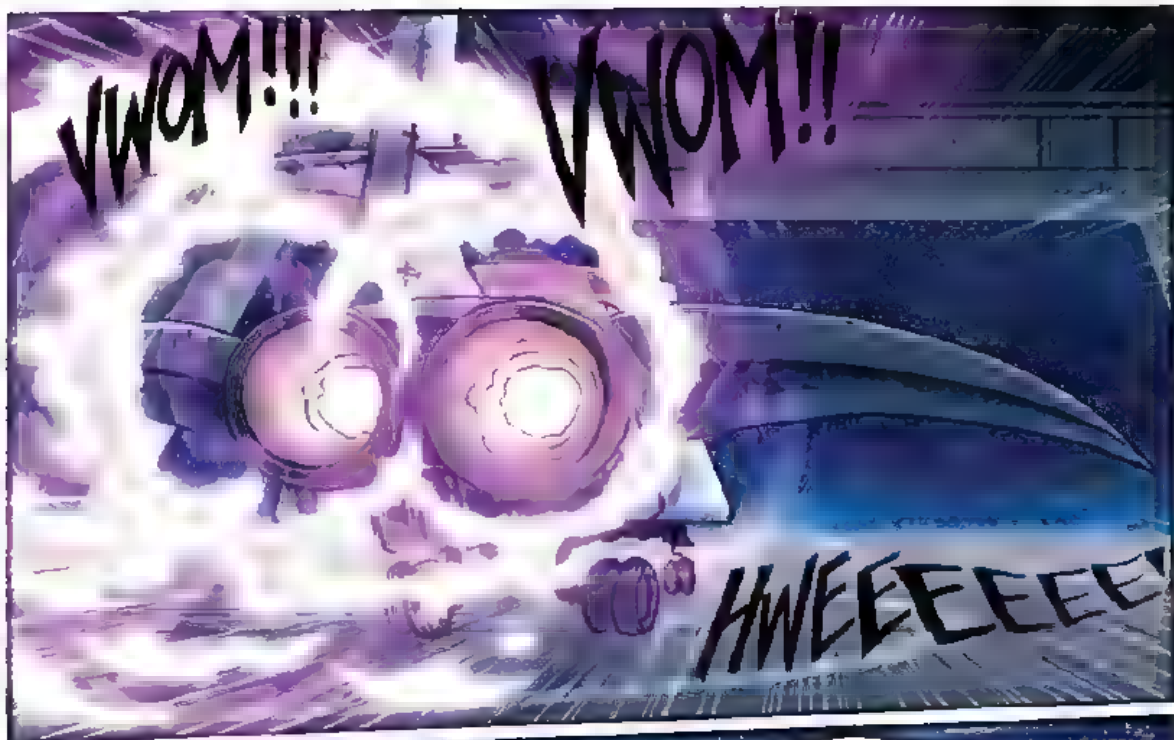
I DON'T KNOW
WHO YOU ARE, BUT
IF YOU'RE NOT INFECTED
BY ONE OF THOSE GHOST
THINGS, YOU OUGHT TO
GET OUT WHILE YOU
STILL CAN!

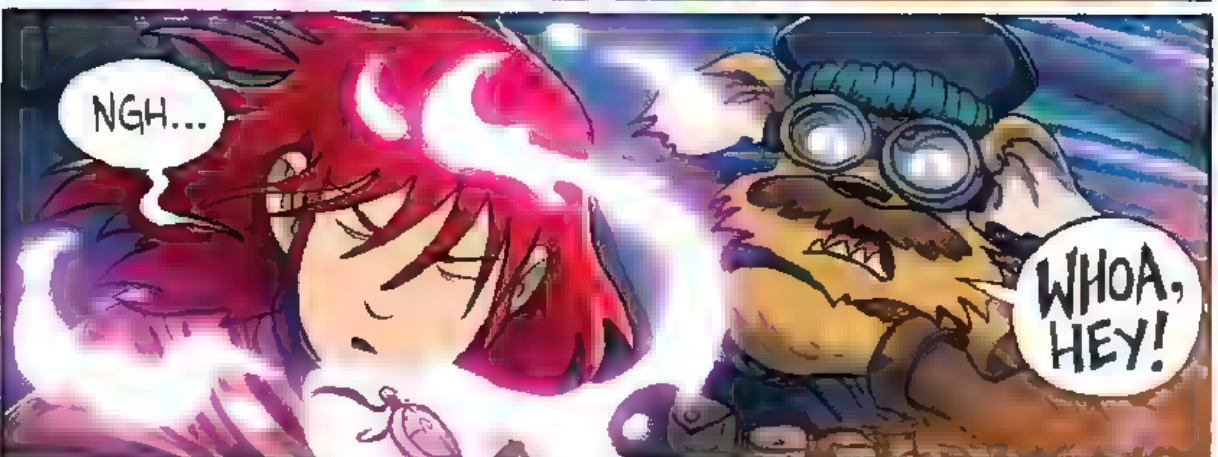
EVERYONE
ON THIS STATION
HAS GONE MAD!














STAY
WITH ME!

DON'T
PASS OUT ON
ME!!!

BEEP! BEEP!!

WARNING!

TOTAL POWER
LOSS DETECTED--

AW,
MAN.

ALL SYSTEMS
SHUTTING DOWN
IN FIVE...FOUR...

AW--

NO. NO NO NO...

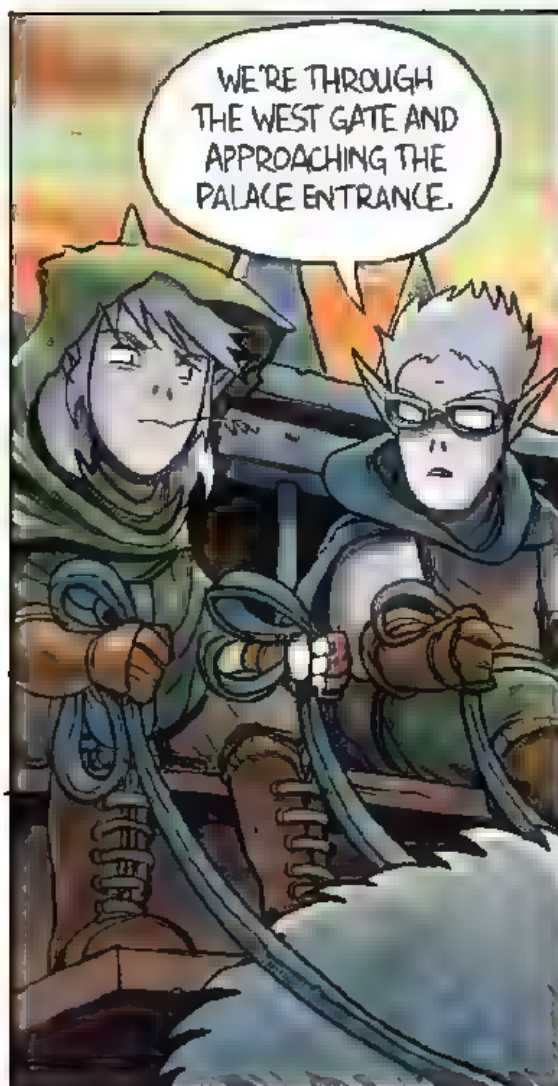
THREE...

TWO...

ONE...

VALCOR,
THE KINGDOM OF
THE ELVES





WE'RE THROUGH
THE WEST GATE AND
APPROACHING THE
PALACE ENTRANCE.



I SEE THREE
GUARDS AND THEY
HAVE WEAPONS.



I CAN TAKE
THESE FOOLS
OUT WITH MY
EYES CLOSED.

NO.



YOUR MISSION
OBJECTIVE IS TO
GET US PAST THE
GATE WITHOUT
TROUBLE.
UNDERSTOOD?



GASP!

TRELLIS!

PUT YOUR
MASK BACK ON!

PATIENCE,
STONEKEEPER.

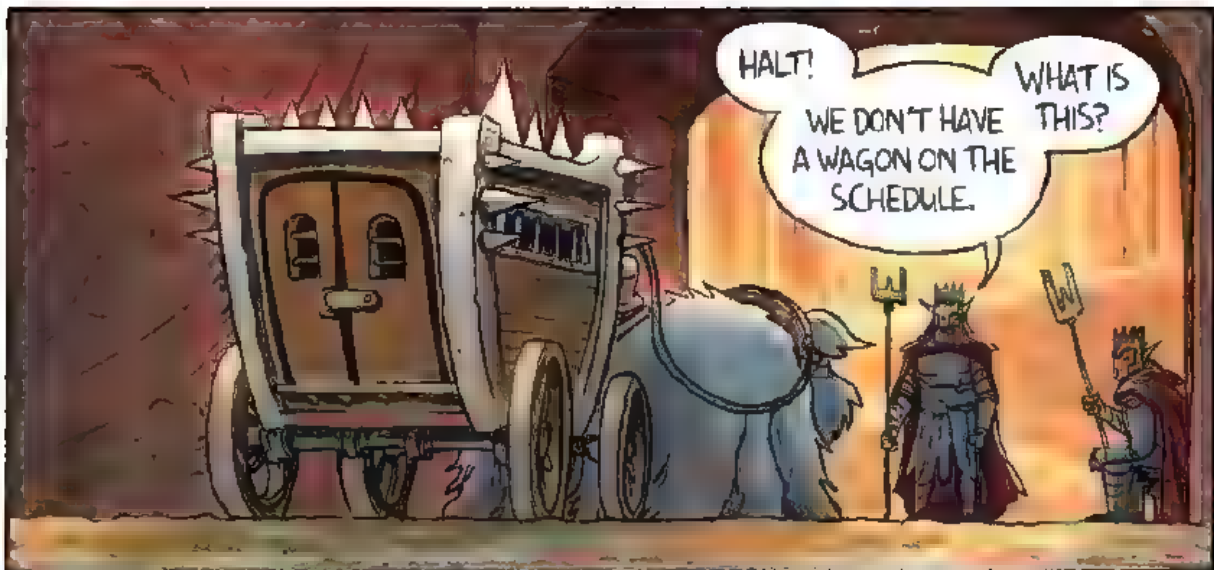
STAY QUIET
JUST A LITTLE
WHILE LONGER.

IT'S JUST SO
HOT IN HERE!

AND THE MASK
MAKES IT HARD
TO BREATHE.

SHH!

WE'RE AT THE
ENTRANCE!



HALT!

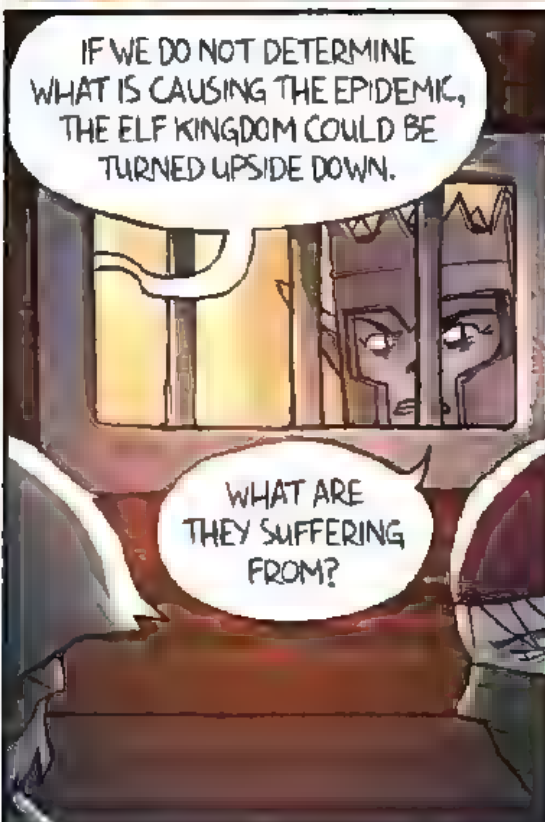
WE DON'T HAVE
A WAGON ON THE
SCHEDULE.

WHAT IS
THIS?



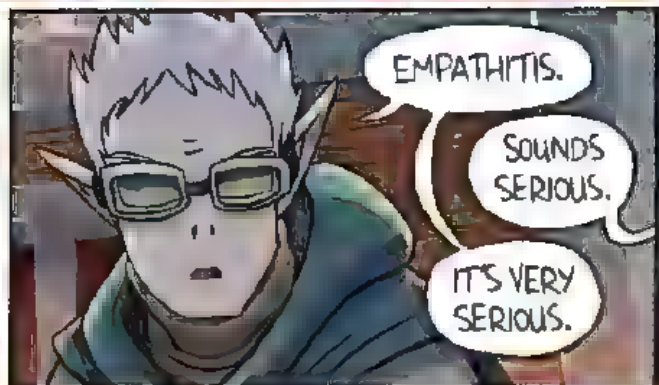
WE ARE CARRYING
SICK PATIENTS.

THE KING
REQUESTED THEY
BE BROUGHT TO
VALCOR FOR
STUDY.



IF WE DO NOT DETERMINE
WHAT IS CAUSING THE EPIDEMIC,
THE ELF KINGDOM COULD BE
TURNED UPSIDE DOWN.

WHAT ARE
THEY SUFFERING
FROM?



EMPATHITIS.

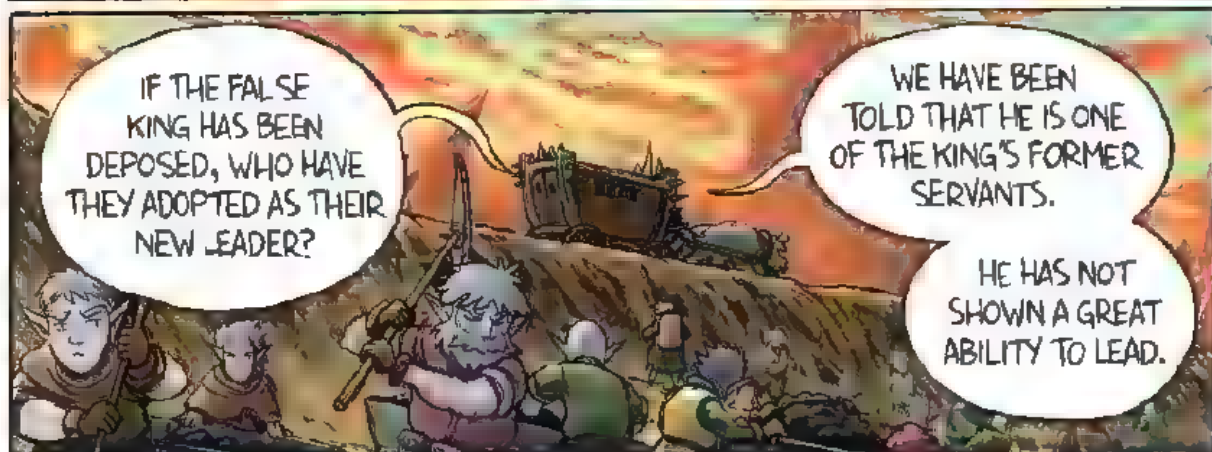
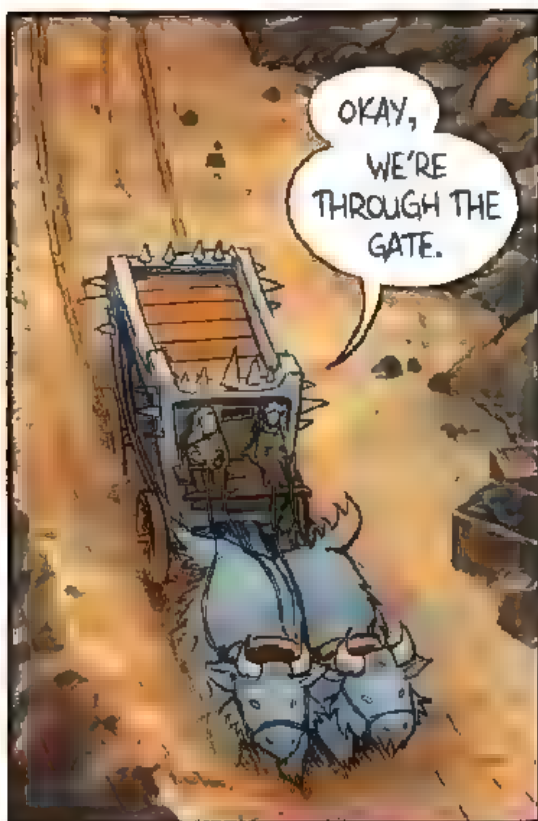
SOUNDS
SERIOUS.

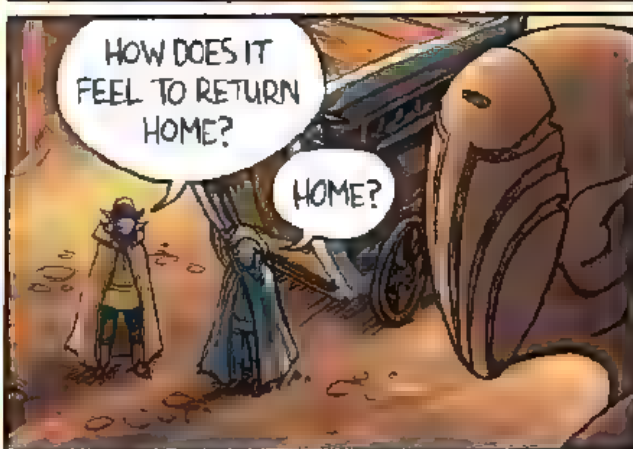
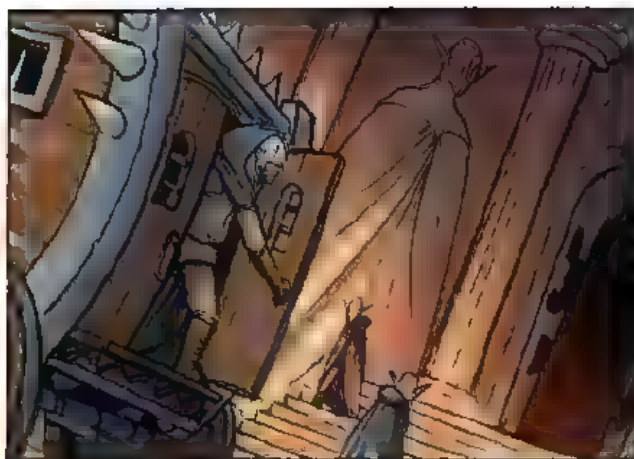
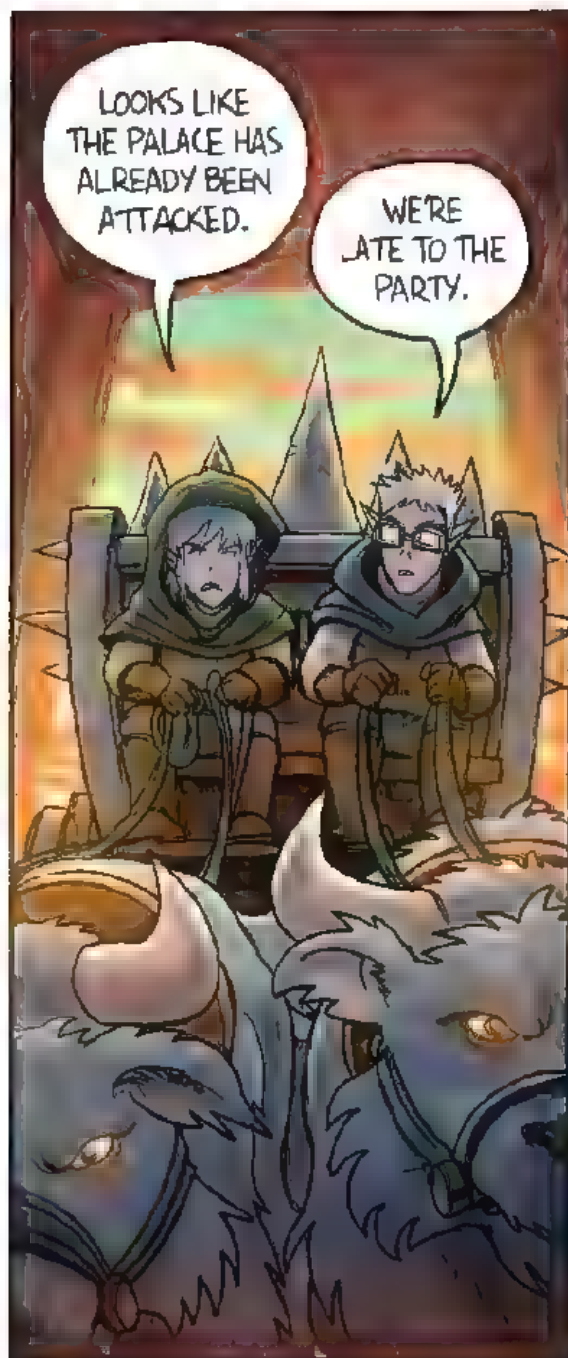
IT'S VERY
SERIOUS.

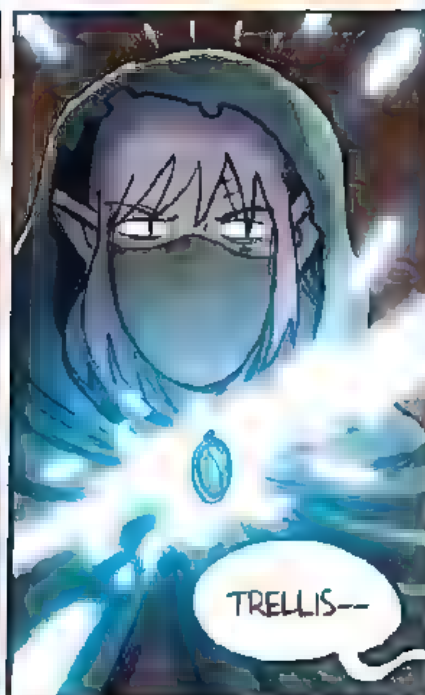
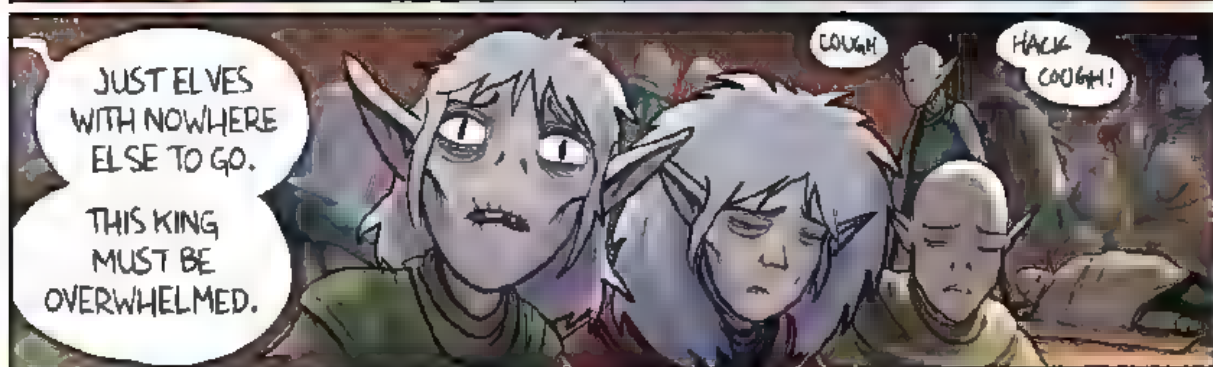
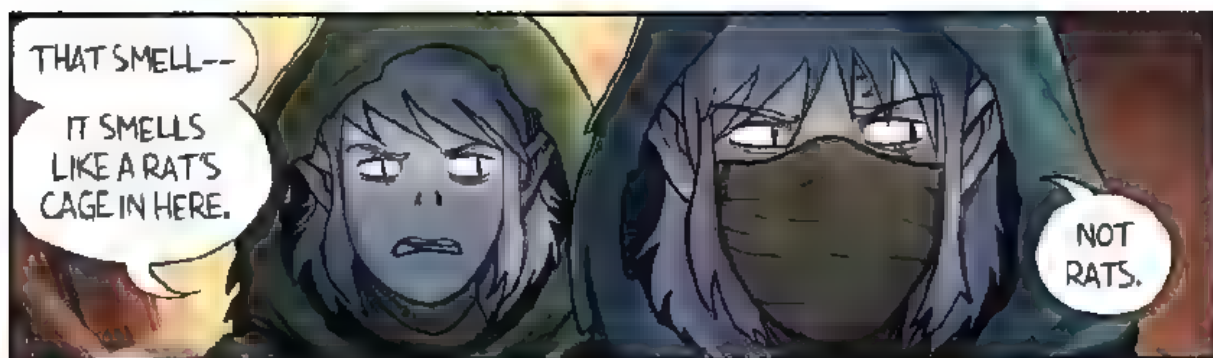


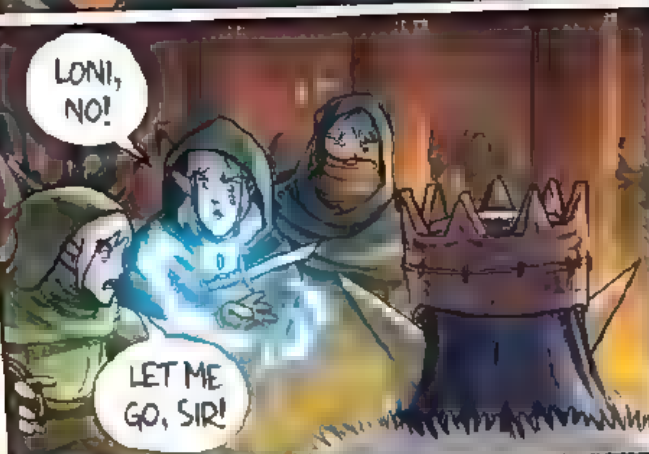
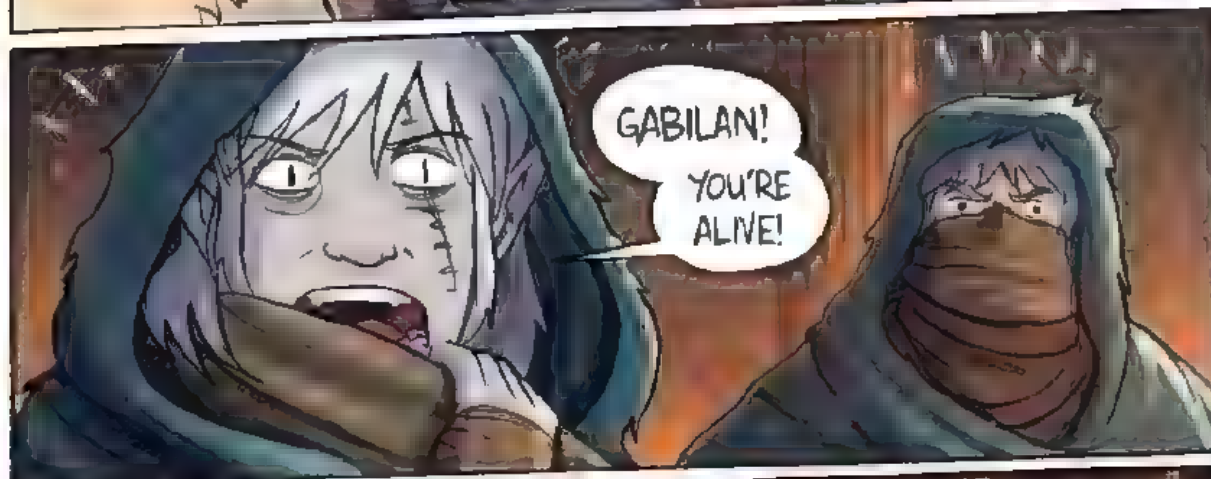
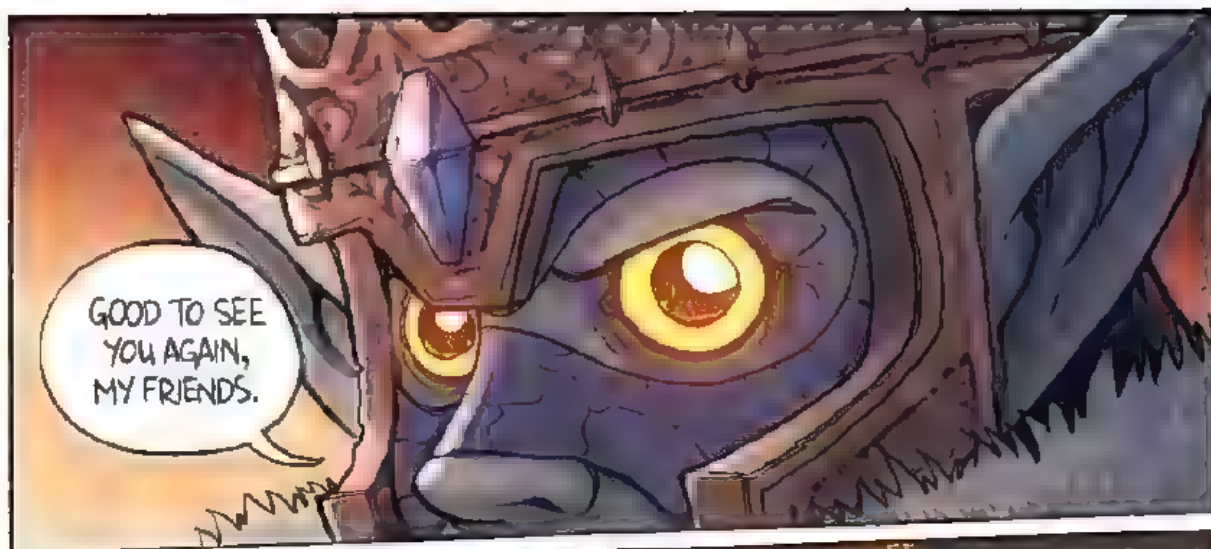
JUST MAKE SURE
NOT TO LET THEM OUT
UNTIL YOU REACH THE
INFIRMARY.

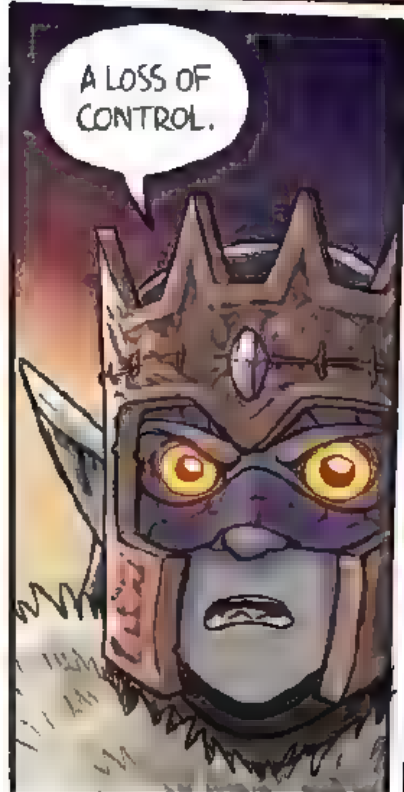
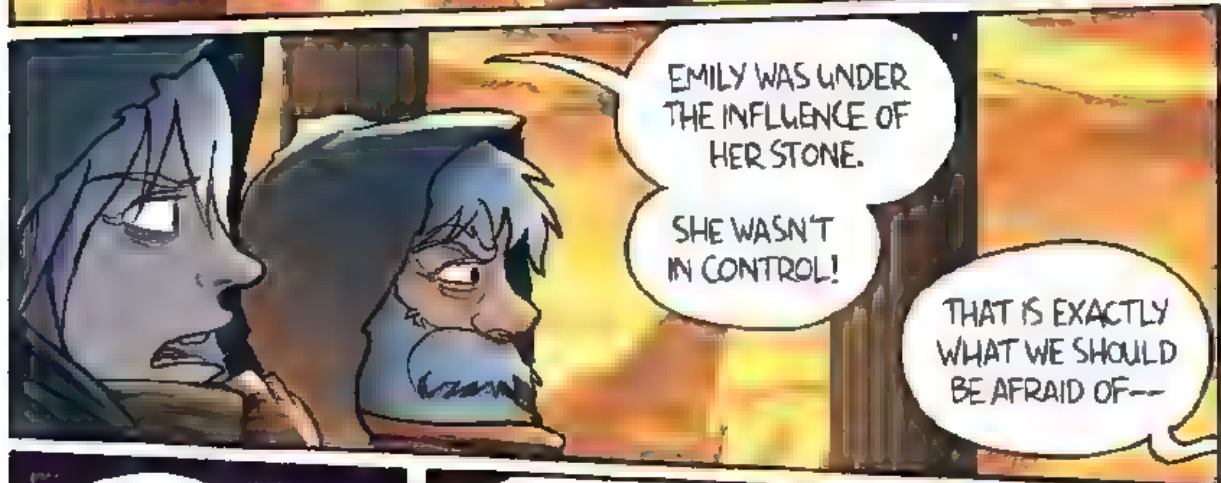
GOT IT.

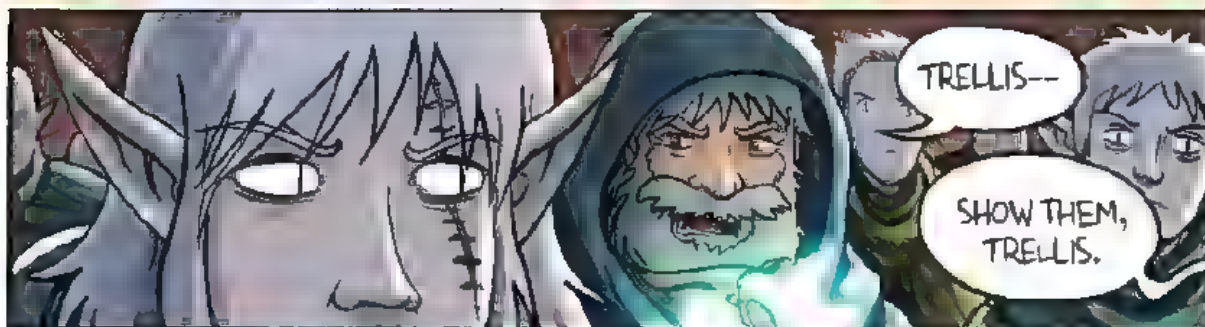


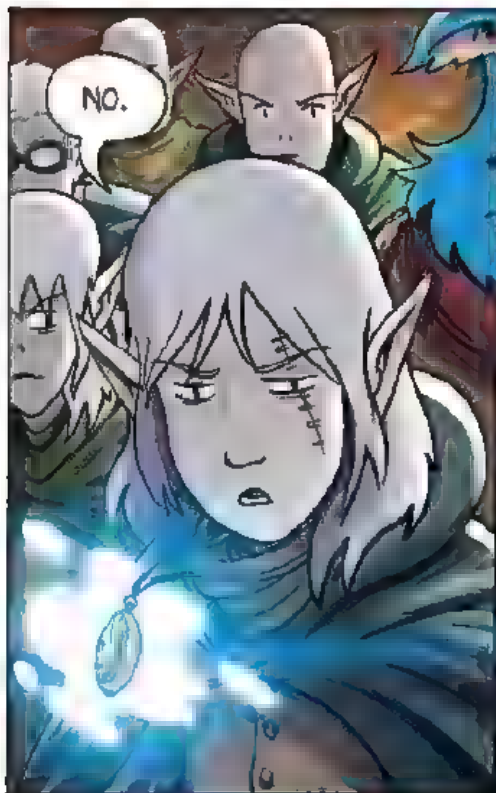




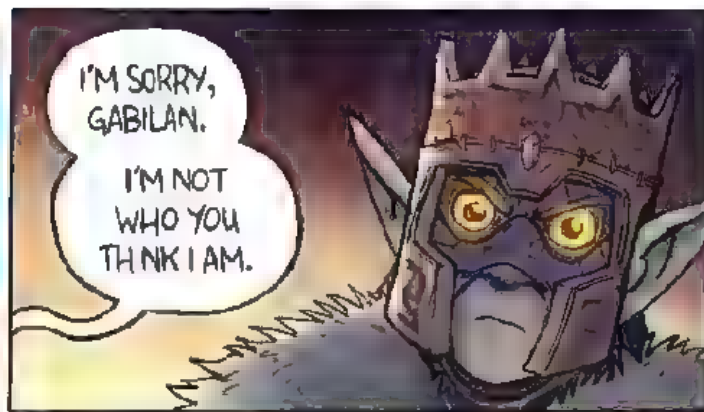








NO.

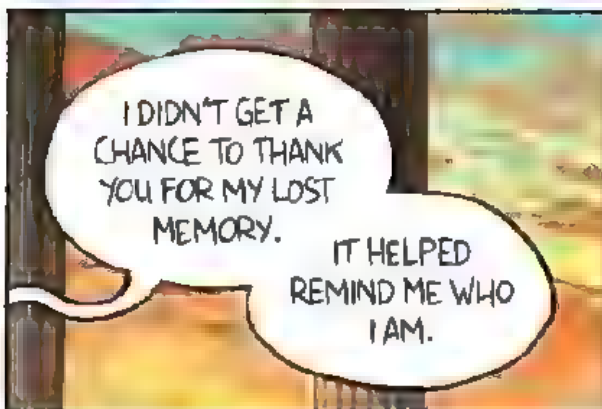


I'M SORRY,
GABILAN.

I'M NOT
WHO YOU
THINK I AM.

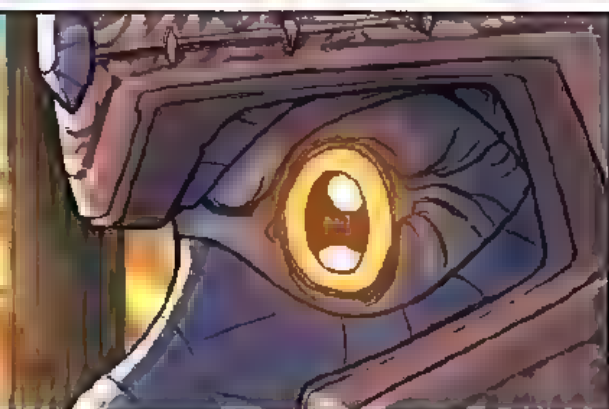


YOU ARE NOW
THE KING.



I DIDN'T GET A
CHANCE TO THANK
YOU FOR MY LOST
MEMORY.

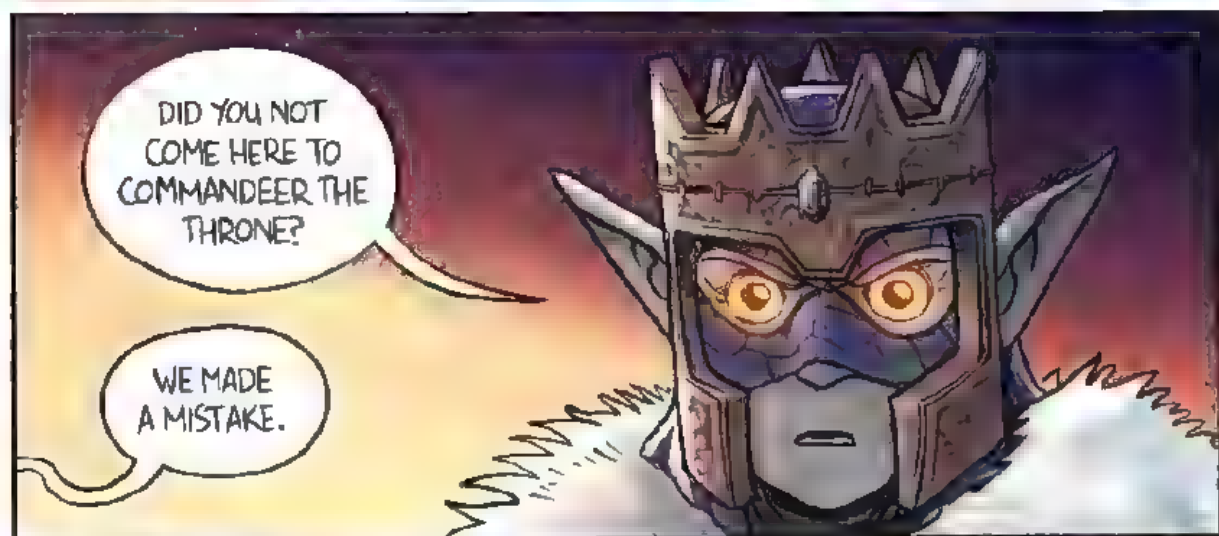
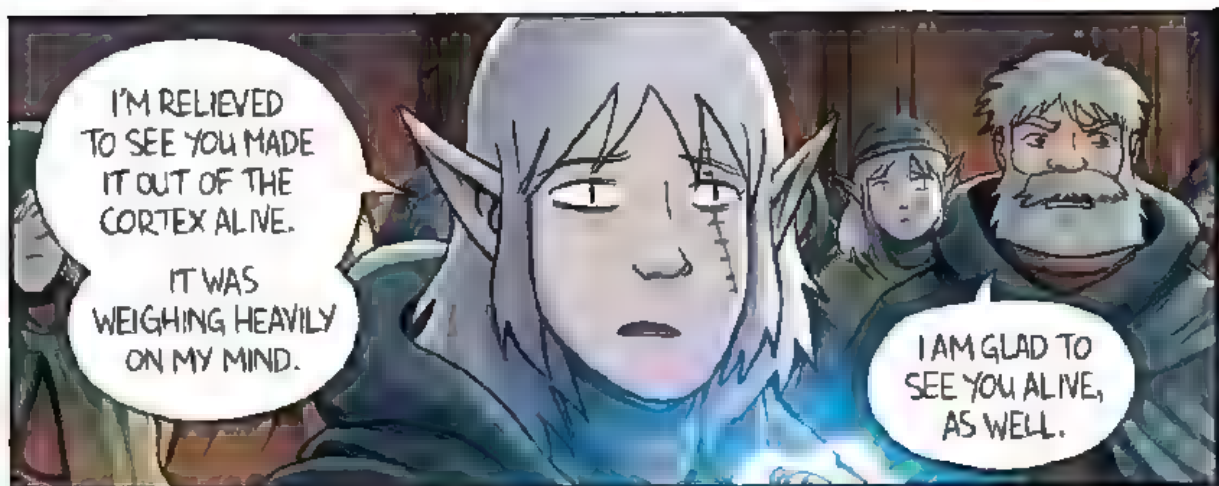
IT HELPED
REMINDE ME WHO
I AM.

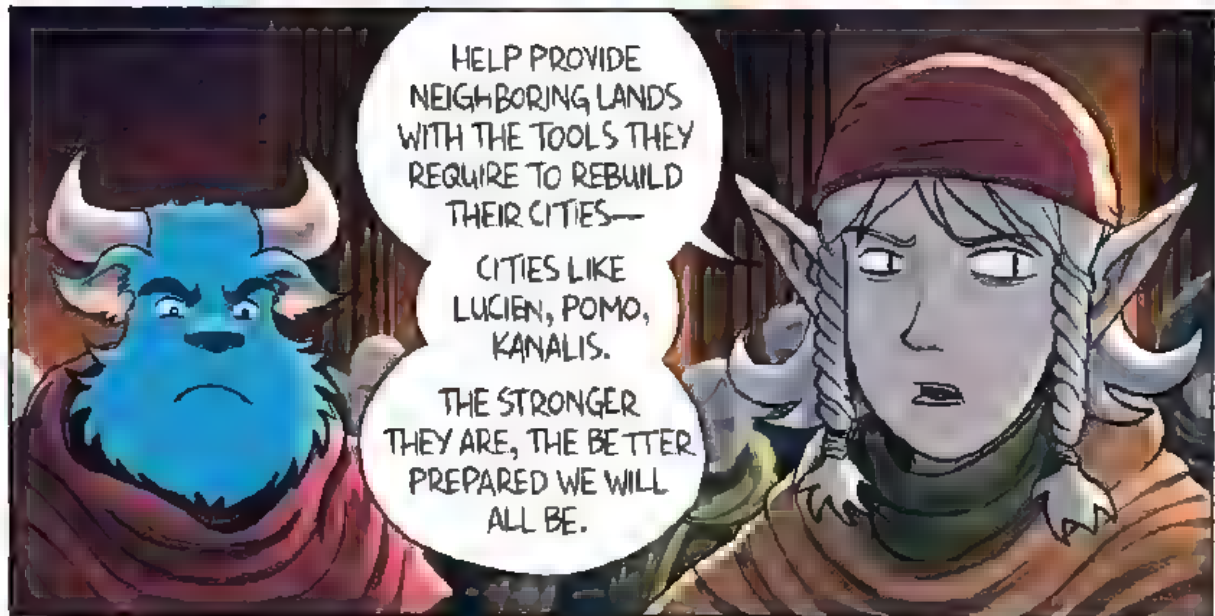


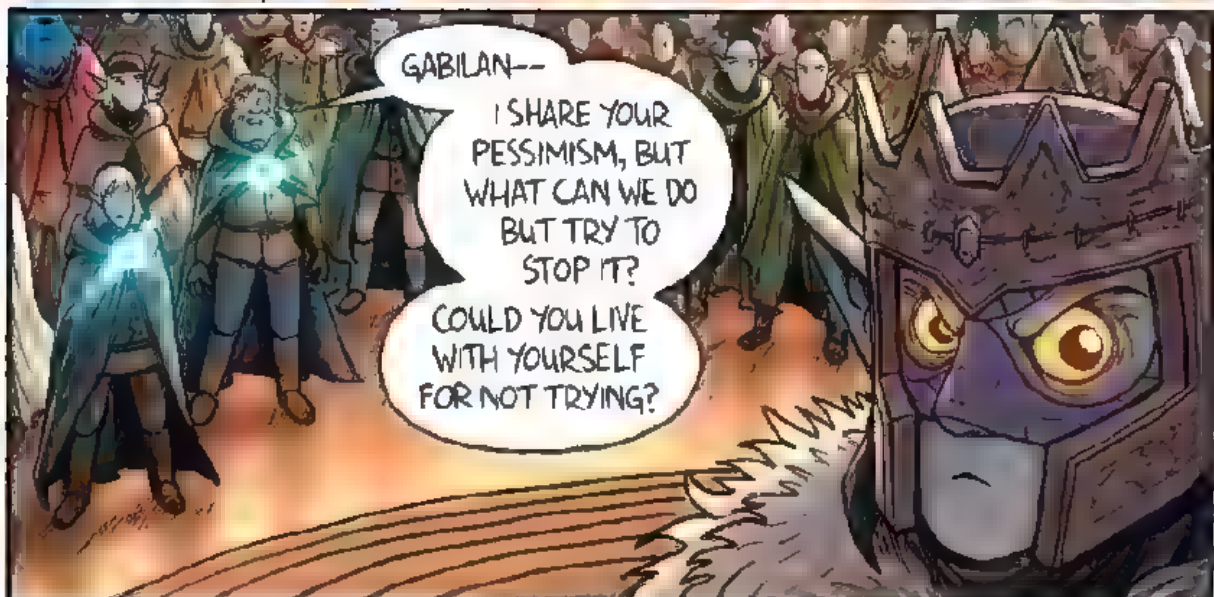
SIR,
NO!

LET US KNOW
WHAT WE CAN DO
TO SERVE THE
KINGDOM OF
ELVES.

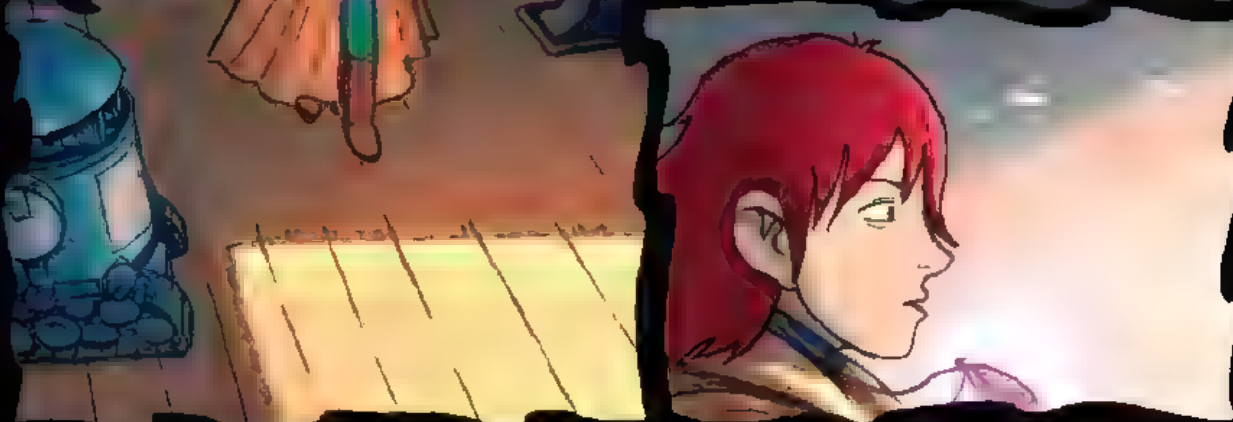
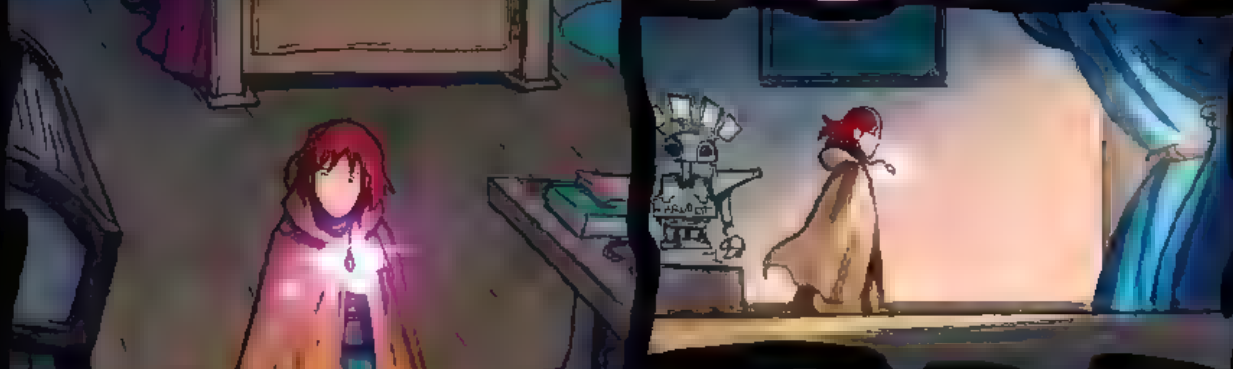
I WILL OFFER
ASSISTANCE WHERE
I CAN.



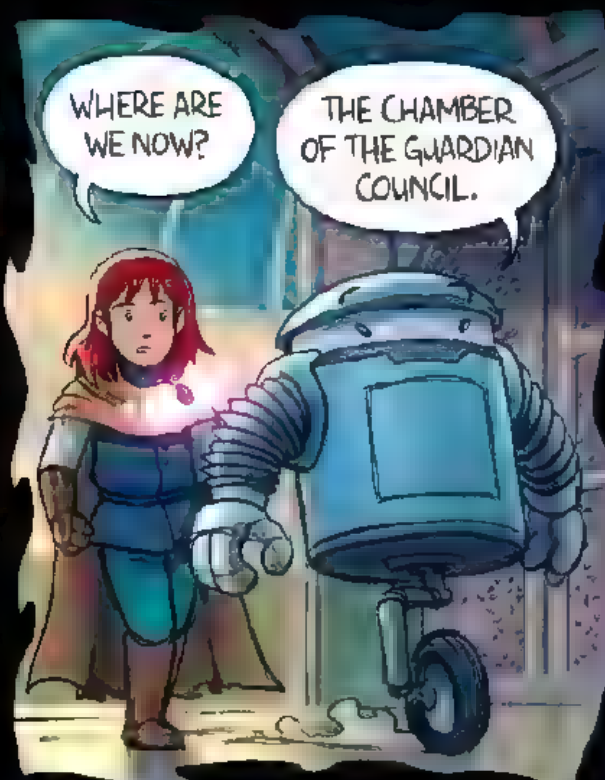












WHERE ARE WE NOW?

THE CHAMBER OF THE GUARDIAN COUNCIL.



OUR LEADERS CONVEENE HERE.

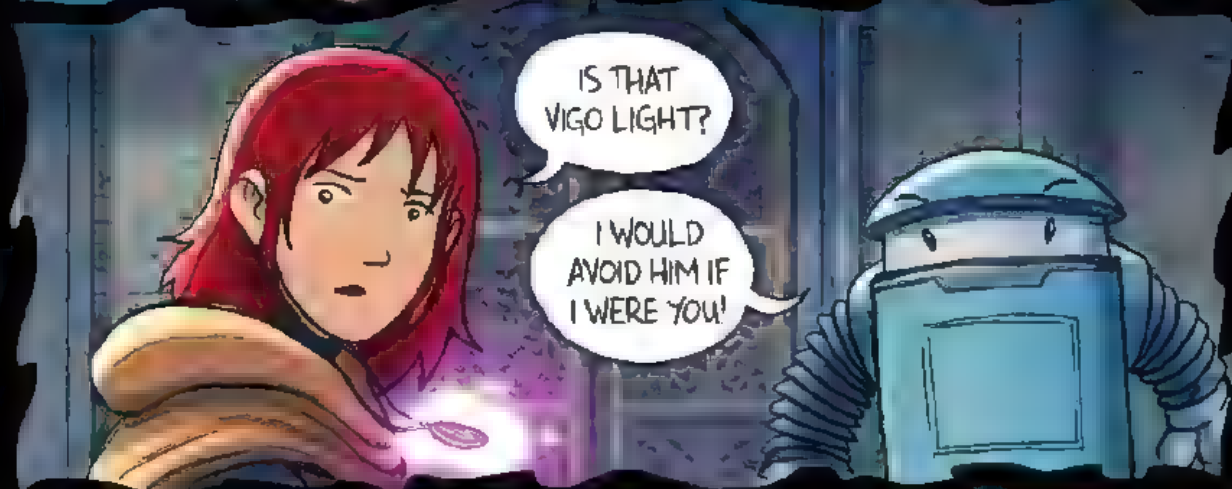
HE WON'T LISTEN TO US, VIGO.



WHAT DO WE DO NOW?



WE'LL MAKE HIM RECONSIDER.



IS THAT VIGO LIGHT?

I WOULD AVOID HIM IF I WERE YOU!

HE QUESTIONS
MASTER SILAS
TOO MUCH.

HE SEEDS
SO MUCH
DOUBT!

I THINK HE
WILL EVENTUALLY
SEE THINGS THE
WAY SILAS DOES.

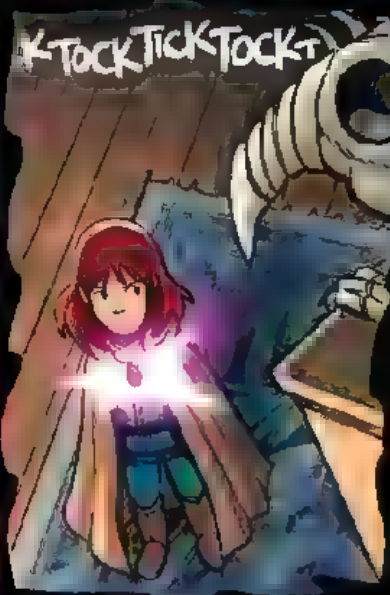
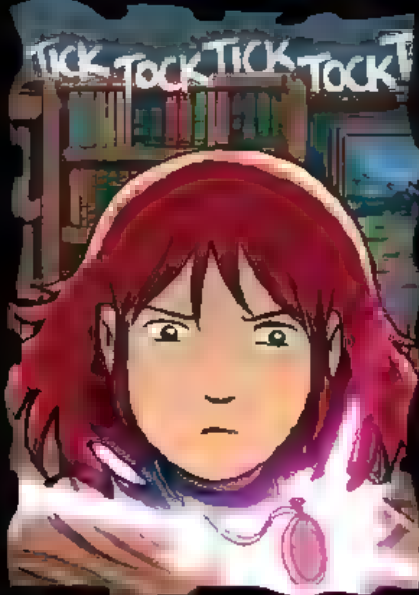
YOU ARE VERY
OPEN-MINDED,
MISS EMILY!

NO.
I'VE JUST
SEEN SOME
THINGS.

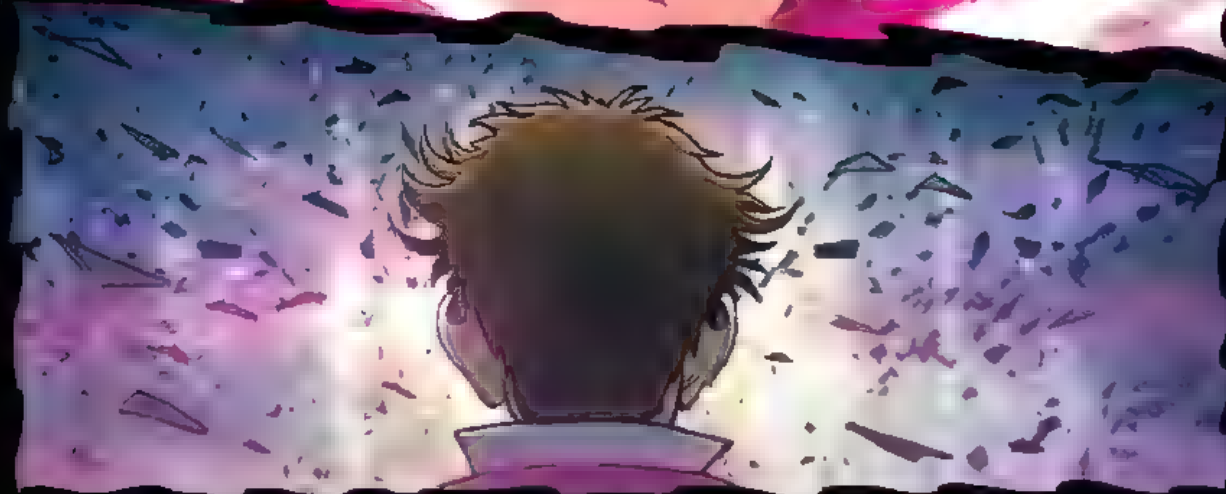
THAT IS EXACTLY
WHAT YOUR GREAT-
GRANDFATHER
WOULD SAY.

MASTER
SILAS—

EMILY IS
HERE TO SEE
YOU.



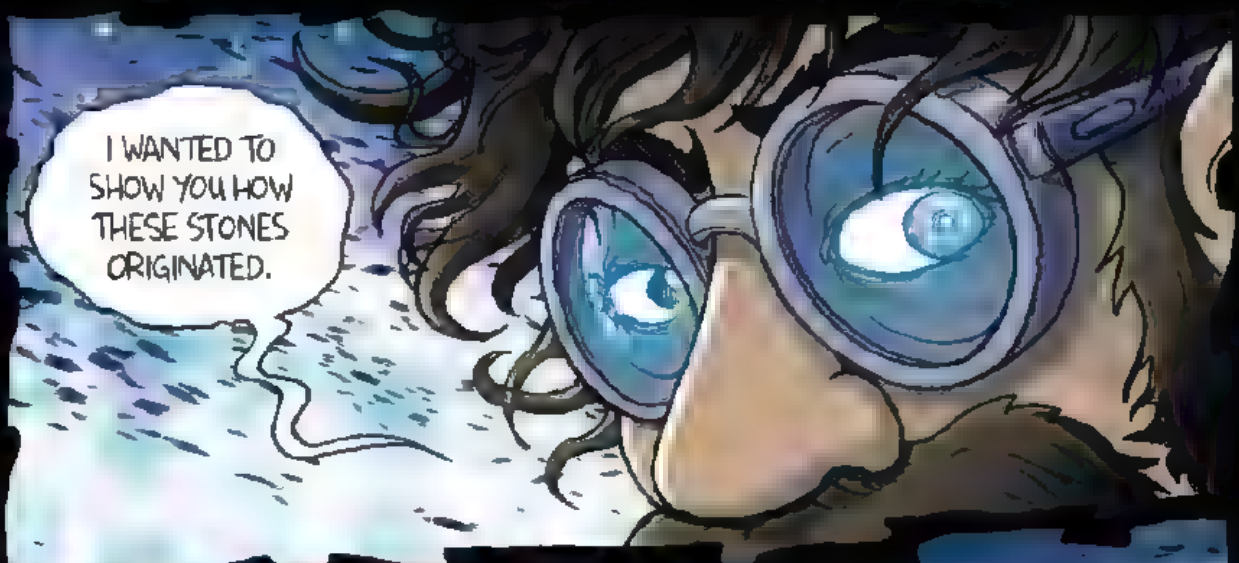




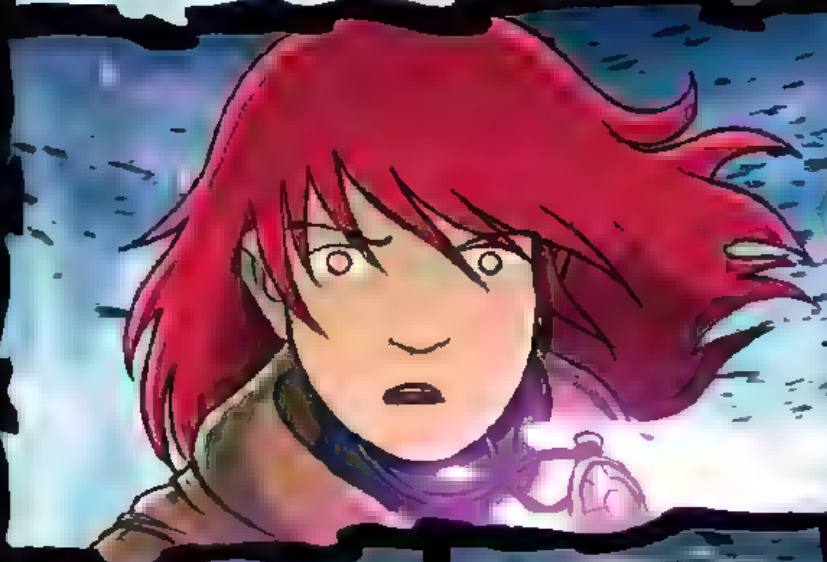


WHAT ARE
YOU DOING,
EMILY?


WHY HAVE YOU
DESTROYED MY
OFFICE?



I WANTED TO
SHOW YOU HOW
THESE STONES
ORIGINATED.



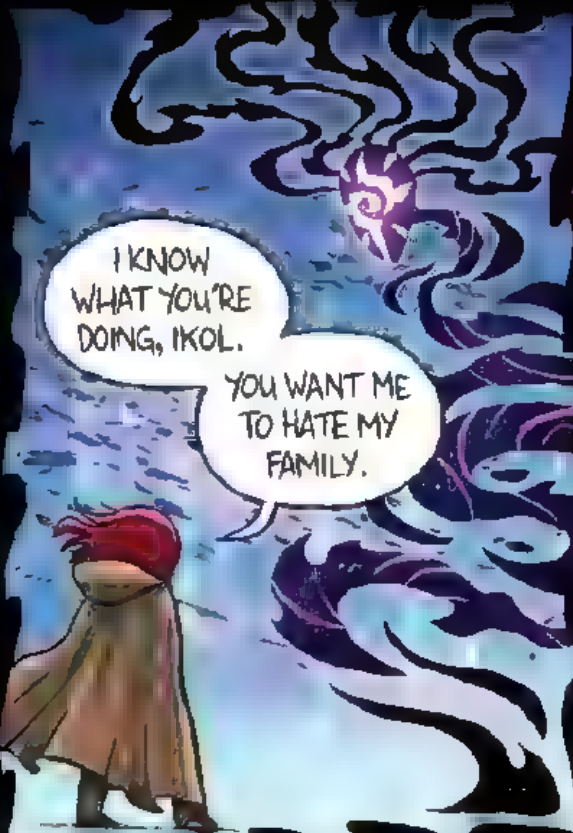
HOW MANY
TIMES DO YOU
BELIEVE YOU CAN
FOOL ME, IKOL?



STOP HIDING
BEHIND THE
MASKS.




FAIR
ENOUGH.




I KNOW
WHAT YOU'RE
DOING, IKOL.

YOU WANT ME
TO HATE MY
FAMILY.




YOU THINK
THAT I HATE
SILAS.



BUT I DON'T
HATE ANYONE.

NOT EVEN
YOU.



I HAVE ONLY
EVER WANTED TO
MAKE THINGS
BETTER.

EVERYTHING I
HAVE DONE HAS BEEN
FOR THE BENEFIT OF
ALL LIVING BEINGS.




NO.


YOU ACTED
SELFISHLY.

YOU BELIEVE YOU
KNOW WHAT'S BEST
FOR OTHERS.


WHEN YOU DON'T
EVEN KNOW HOW TO
HELP YOURSELF.



YOU SHOULD
THANK ME.




WE CAN'T CHANGE
OUR REALITY TO SUIT
OUR DREAMS, IKOL.



NO MATTER
HOW MUCH WE
BELIEVE WE
ARE RIGHT.

AND IF YOU
WISH FOR OTHERS
TO HELP YOU--



YOU MUST
LEARN TO LET
THEM GO.



ARE YOU
PREPARED TO
DO WHAT IS
RIGHT?

ARE YOU
PREPARED
TO LET GO?

LET ME
GO, IKOL.

LET
GO.

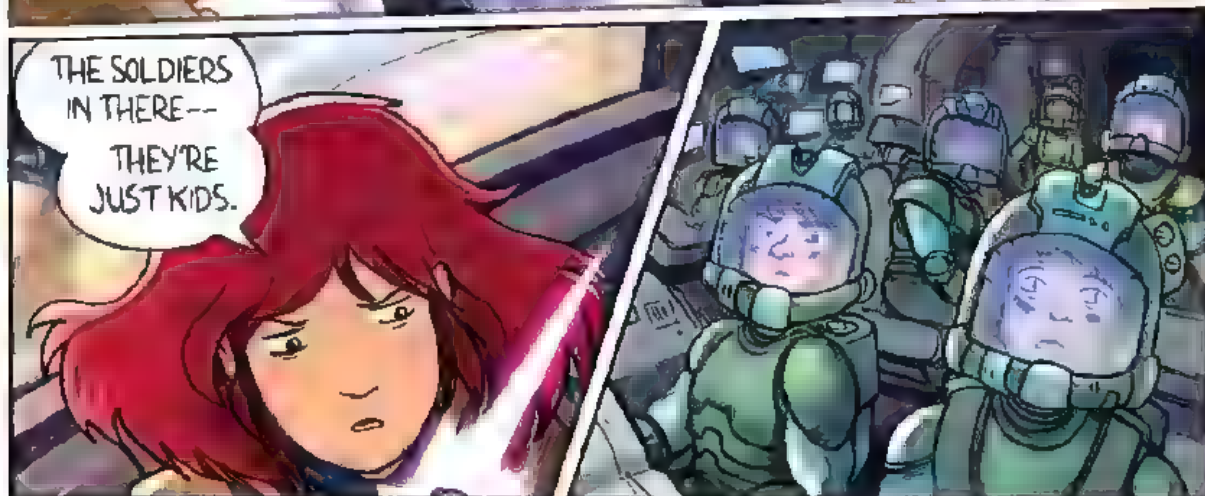
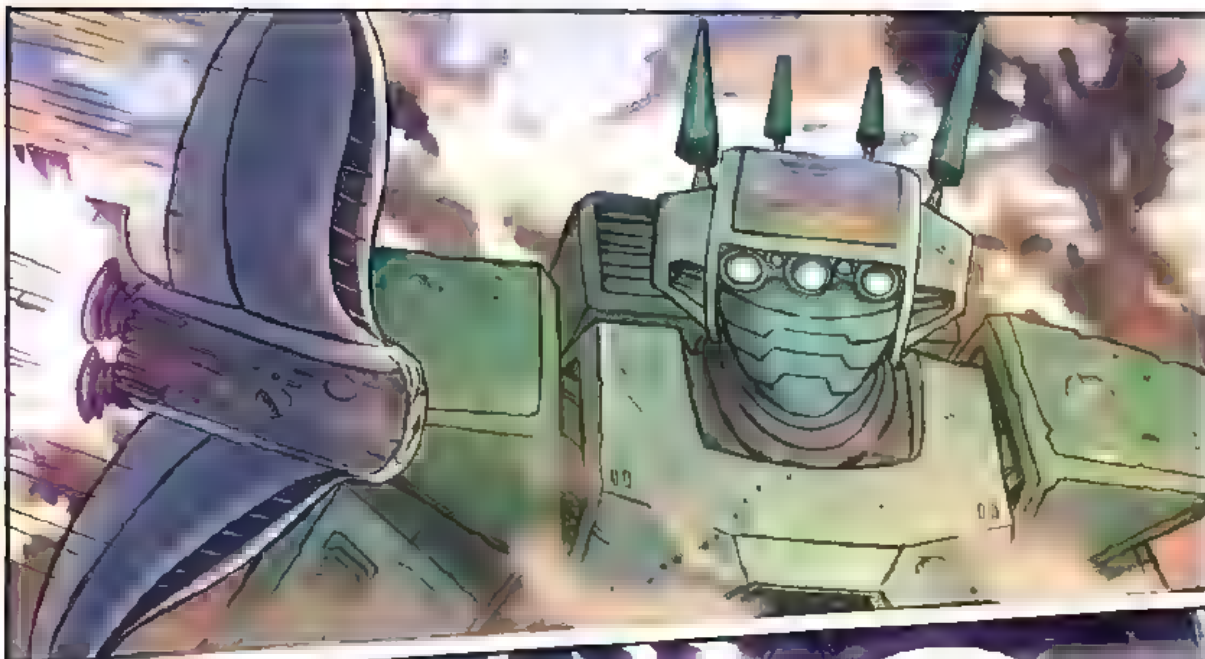


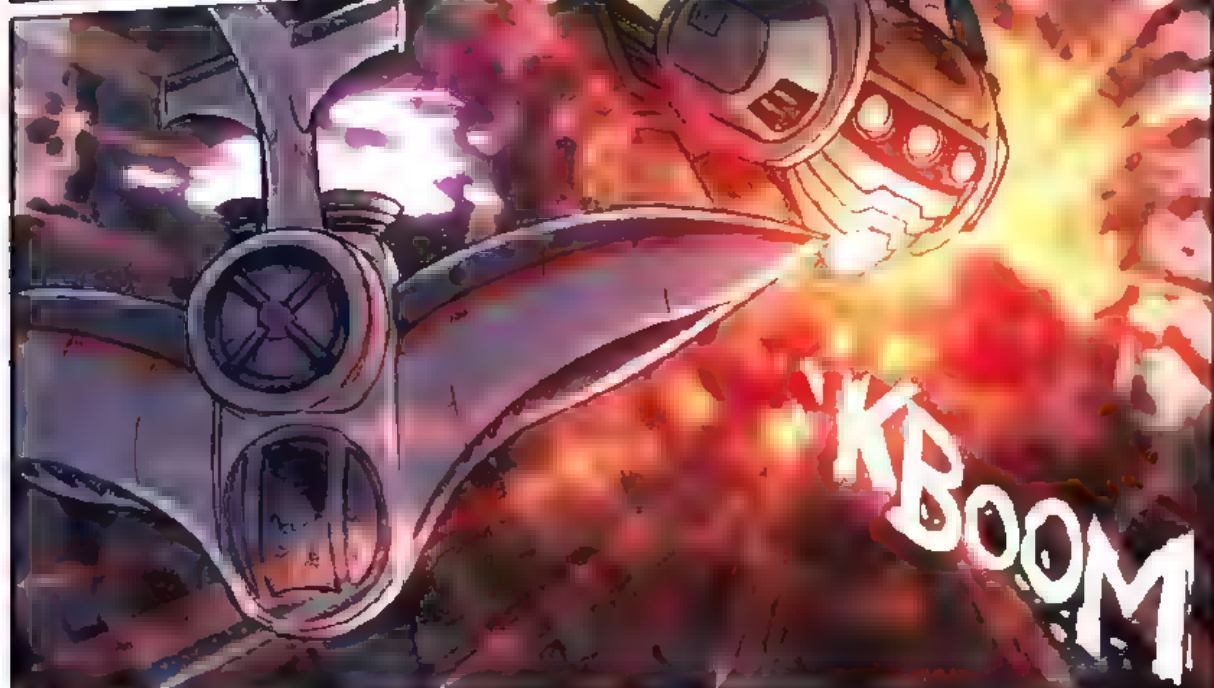
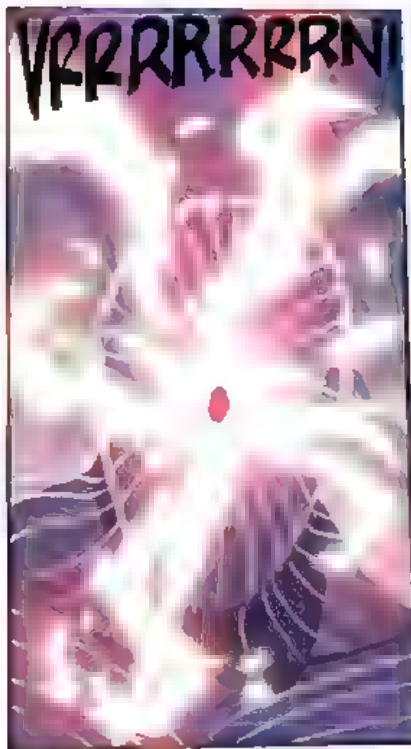
BEEP BEEP BEEP BEEP BEEP BEEP BEEP BEEP



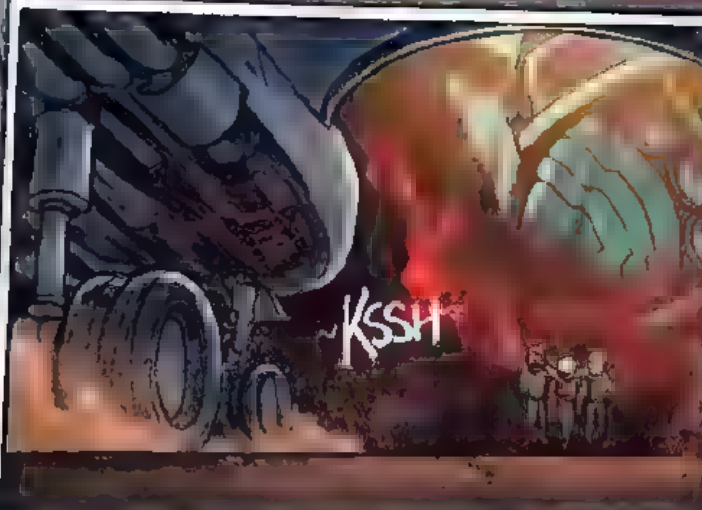
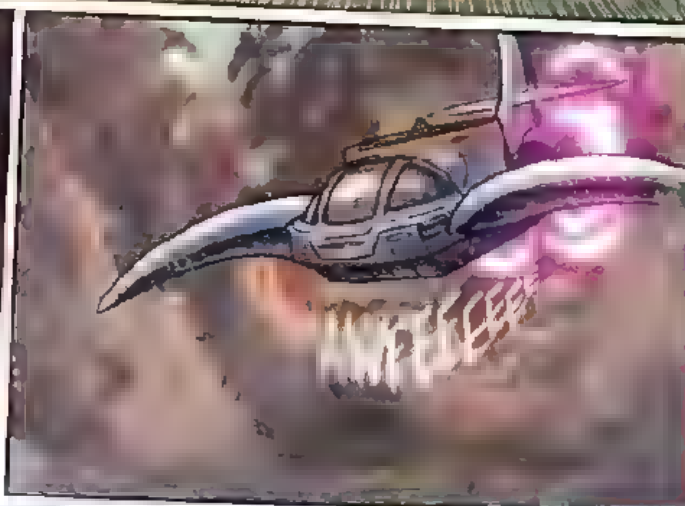
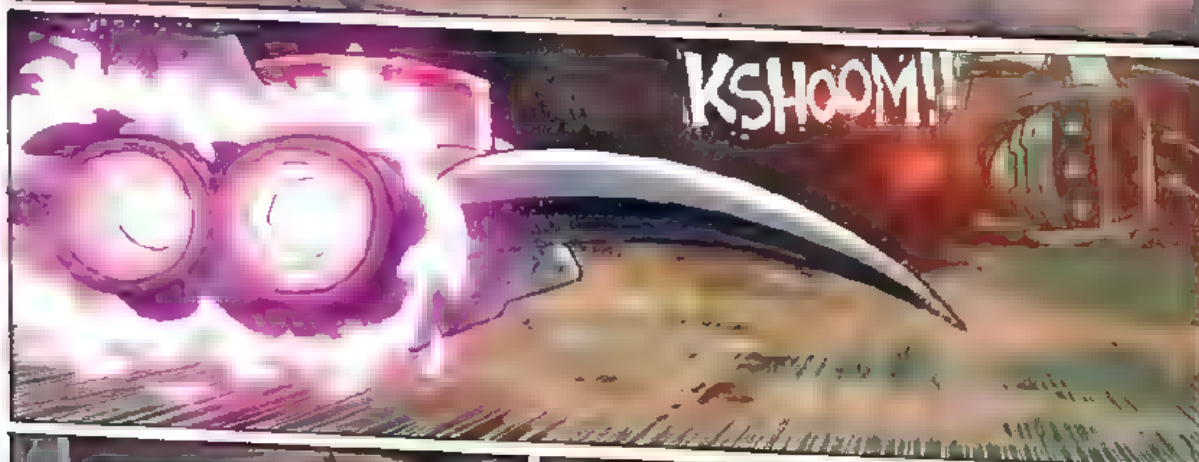
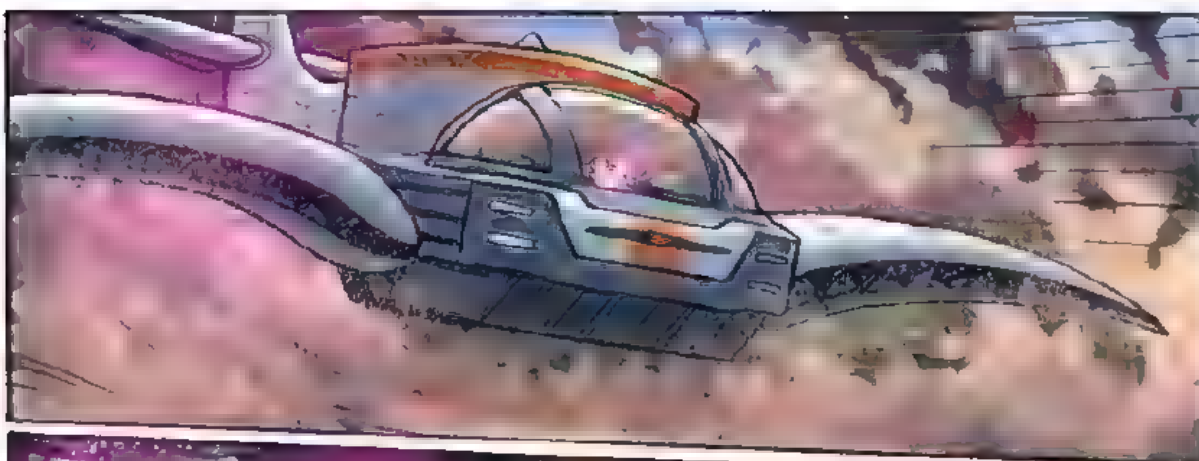


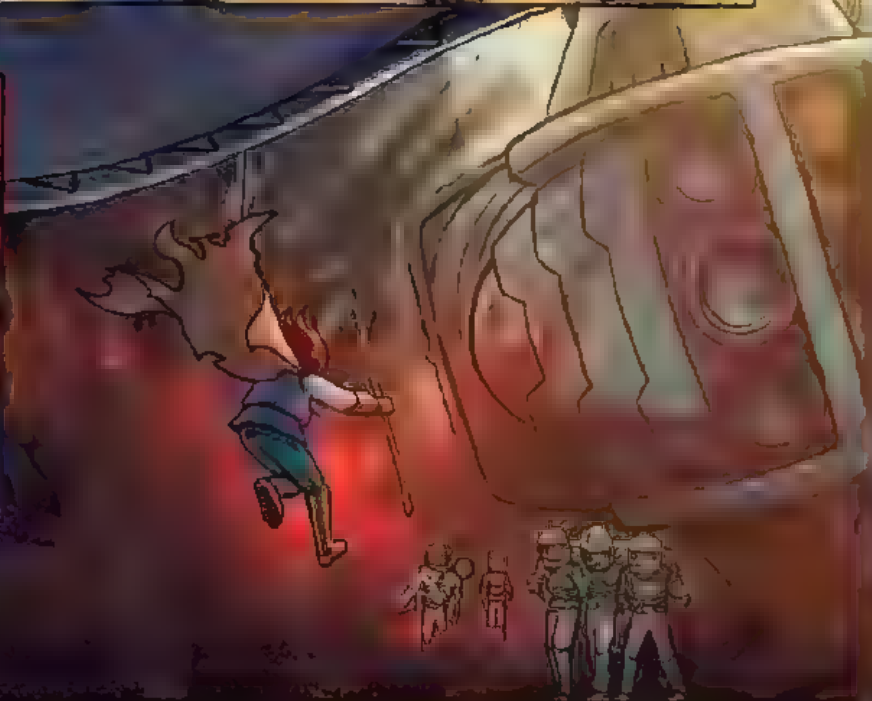
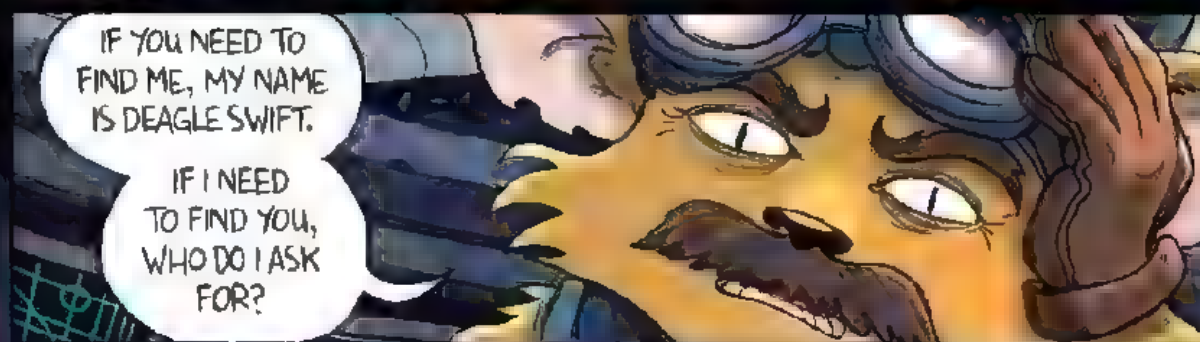
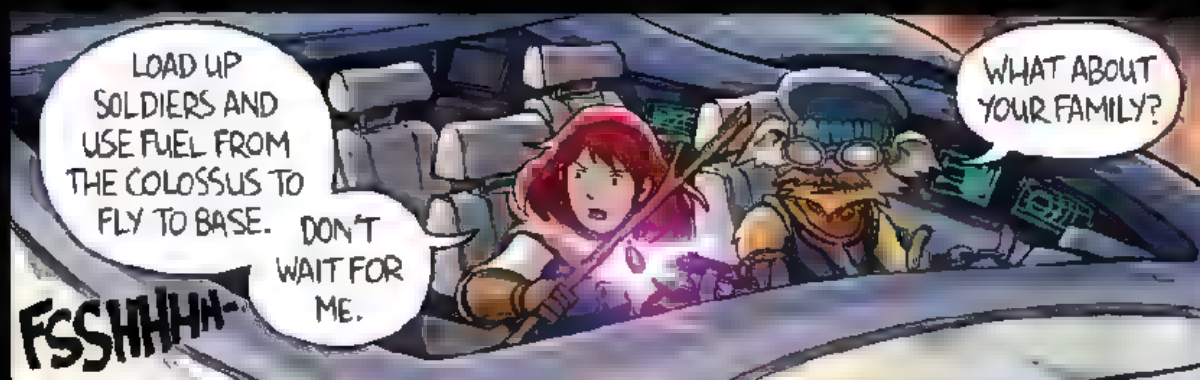












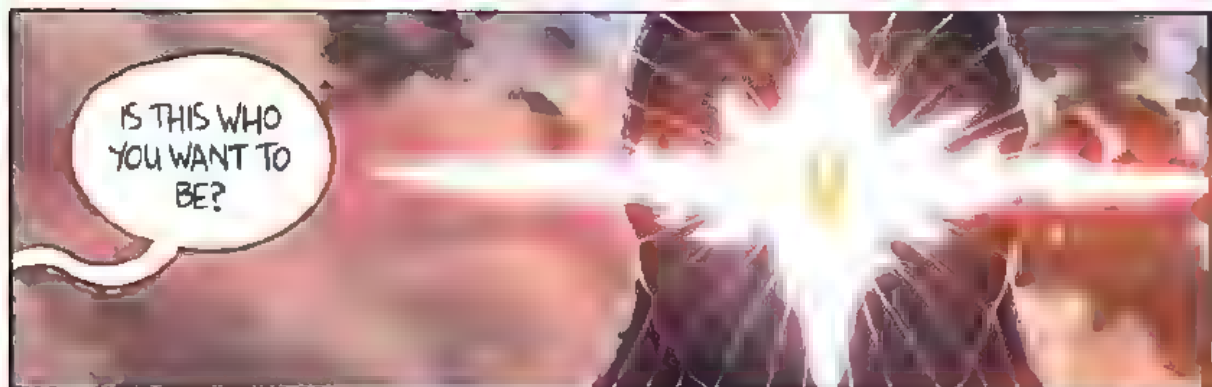




I DON'T
WANT TO
FIGHT.
BUT I WILL
TAKE YOU DOWN
IF I HAVE TO.



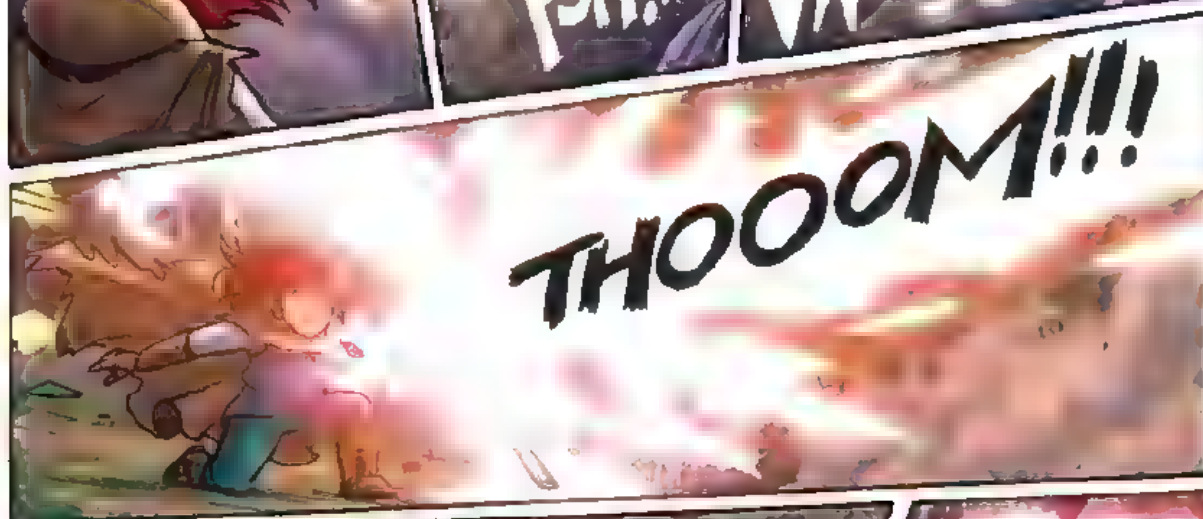
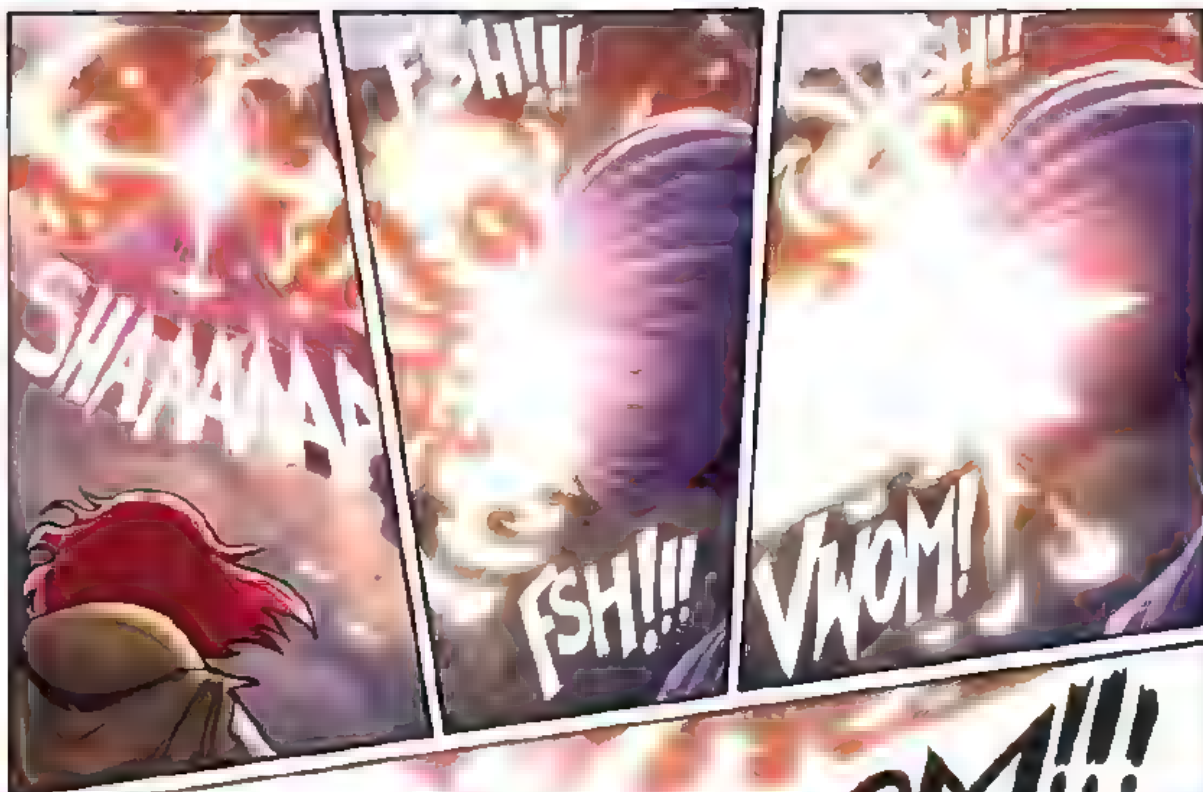
LOOK AT
THE DAMAGE THAT
YOU'VE DONE--
AND THE HURT
THAT YOU'VE
CAUSED.



IS THIS WHO
YOU WANT TO
BE?



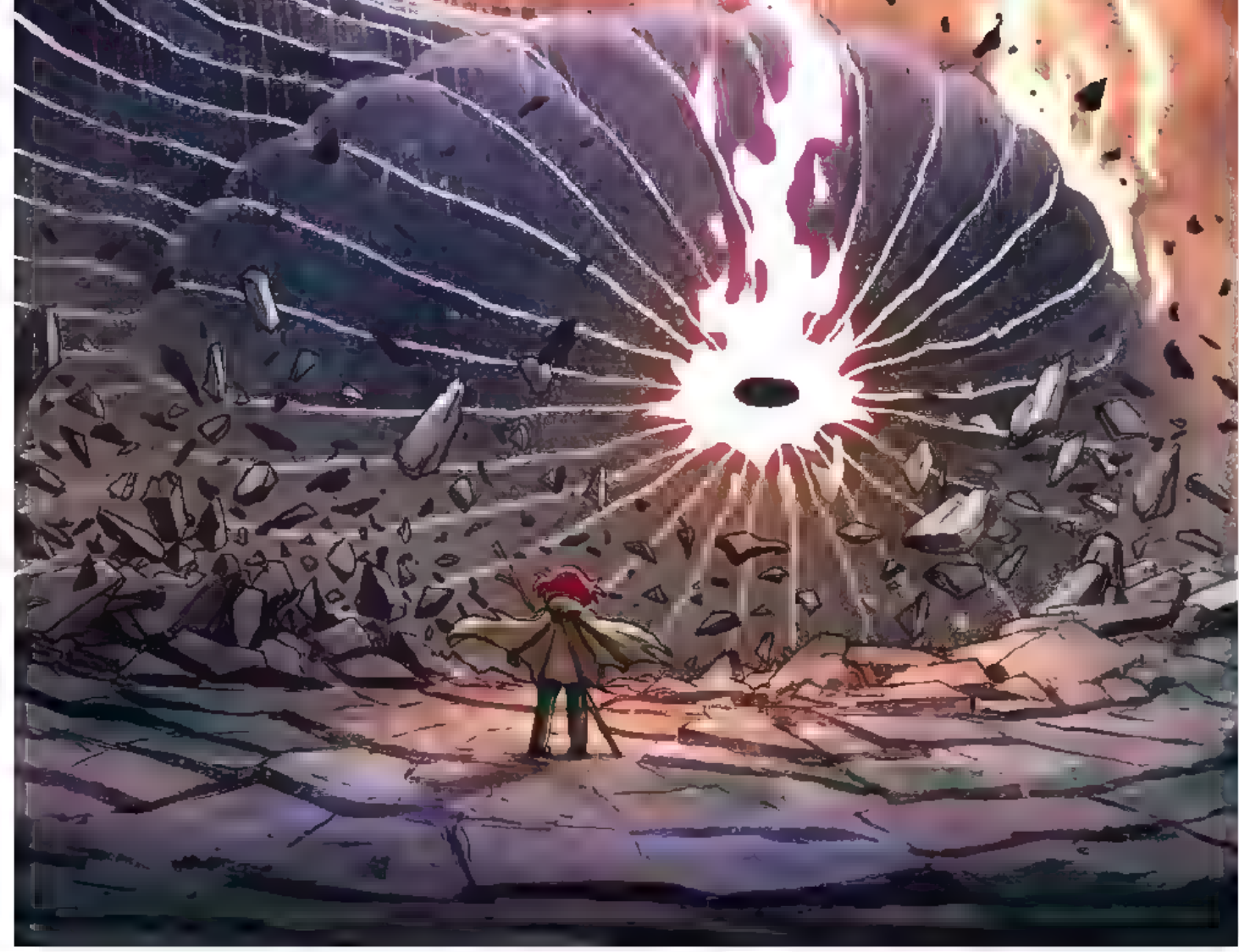
YOU COULD HAVE
CHOSEN TO BE A
BUILDER, LIKE THE
STONEKEEPERS WHO
CAME BEFORE YOU--
BUT YOU
DECIDED TO BE
A DESTROYER.

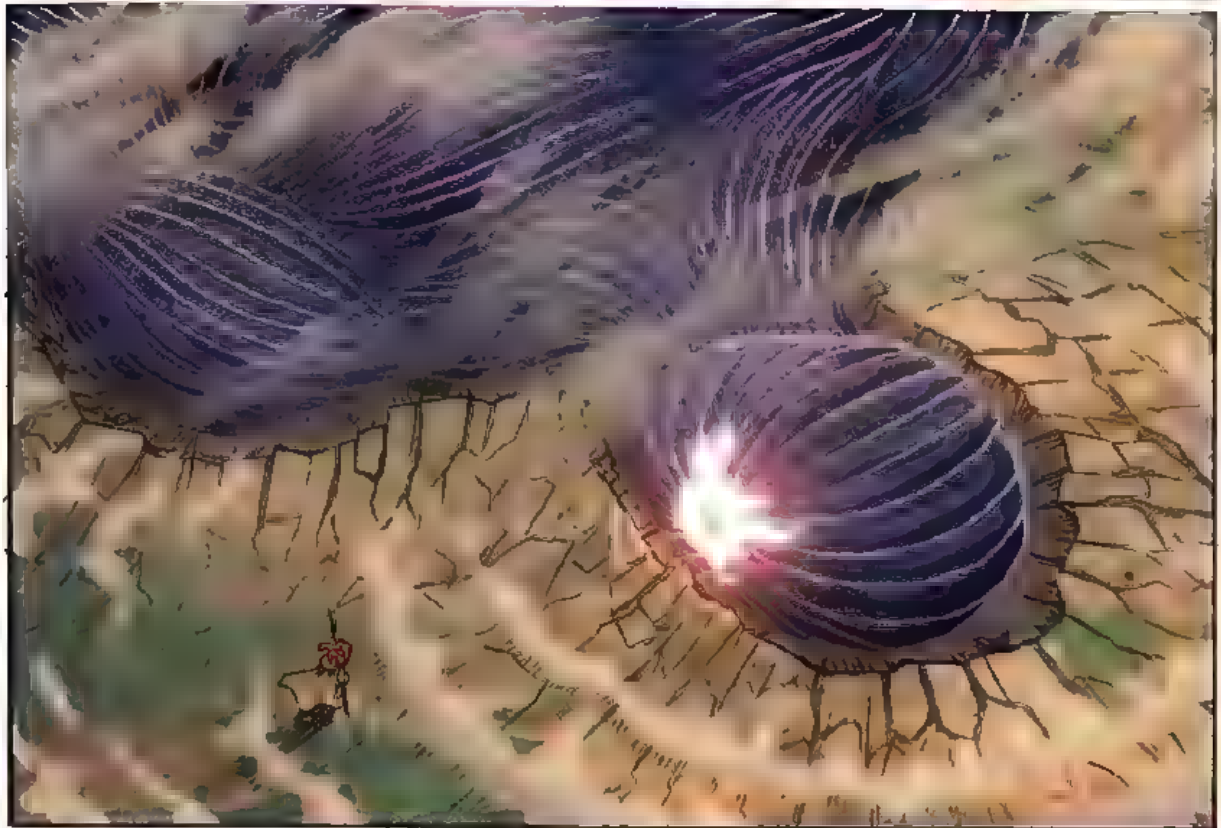
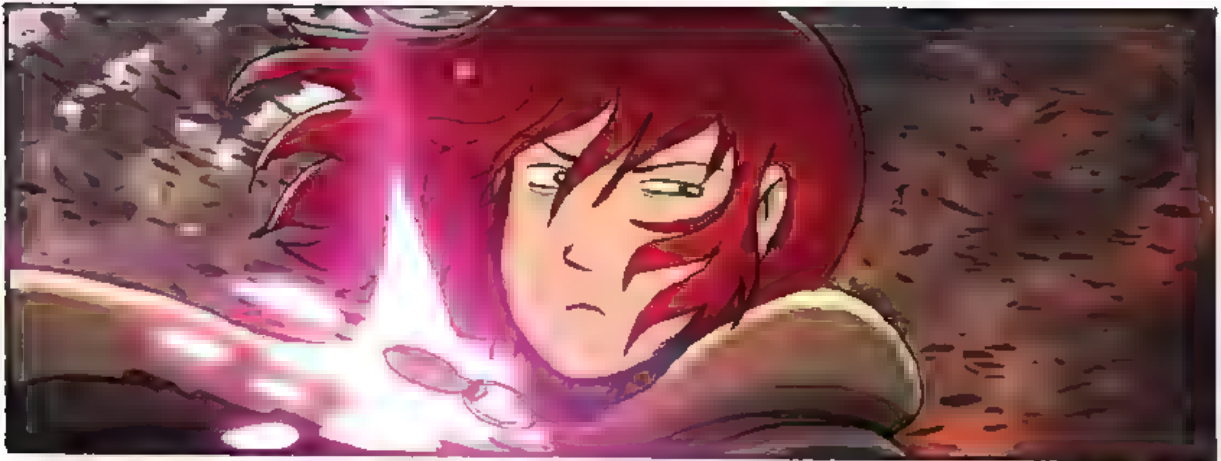




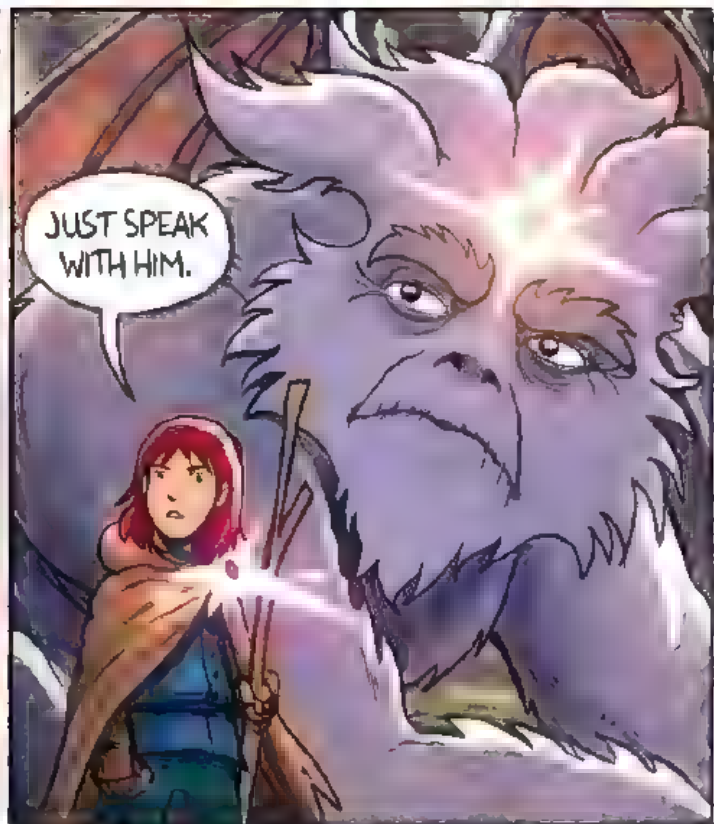


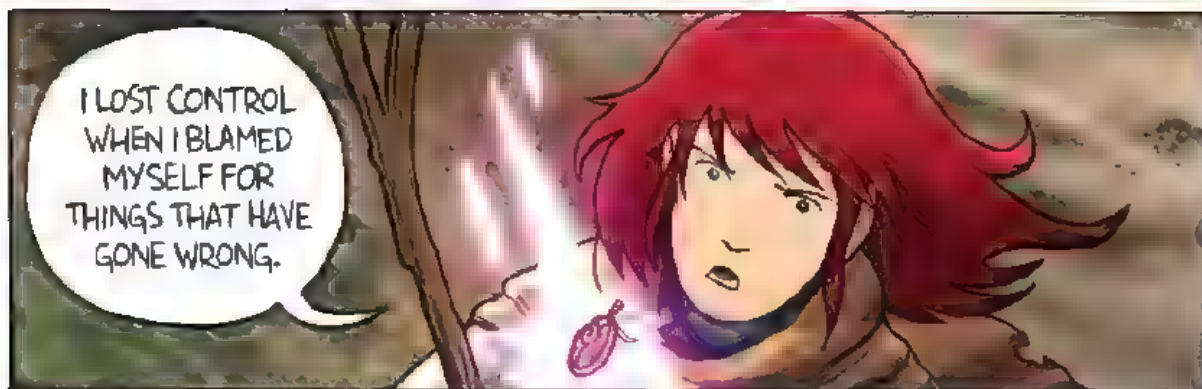
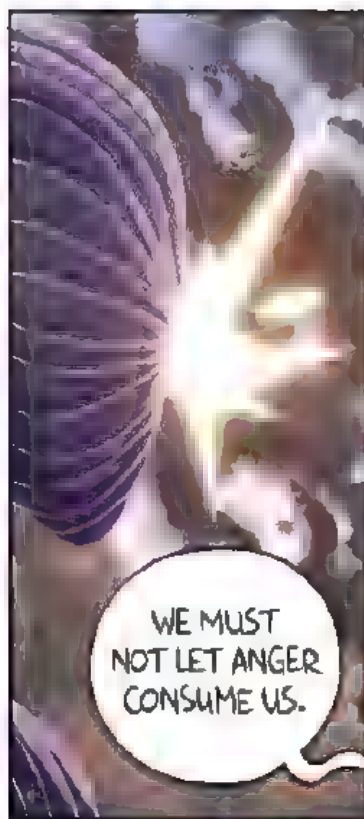
KOOOM!!!









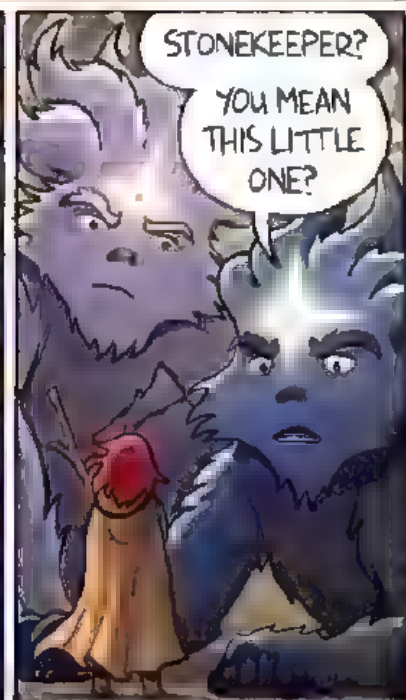
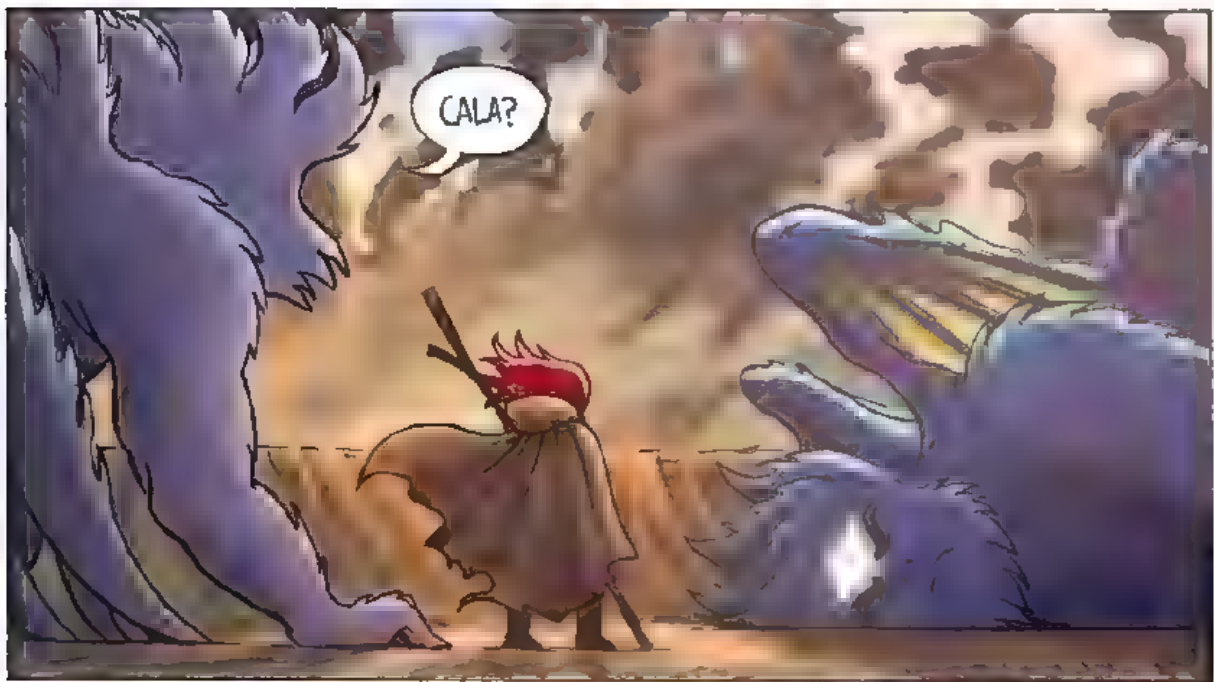


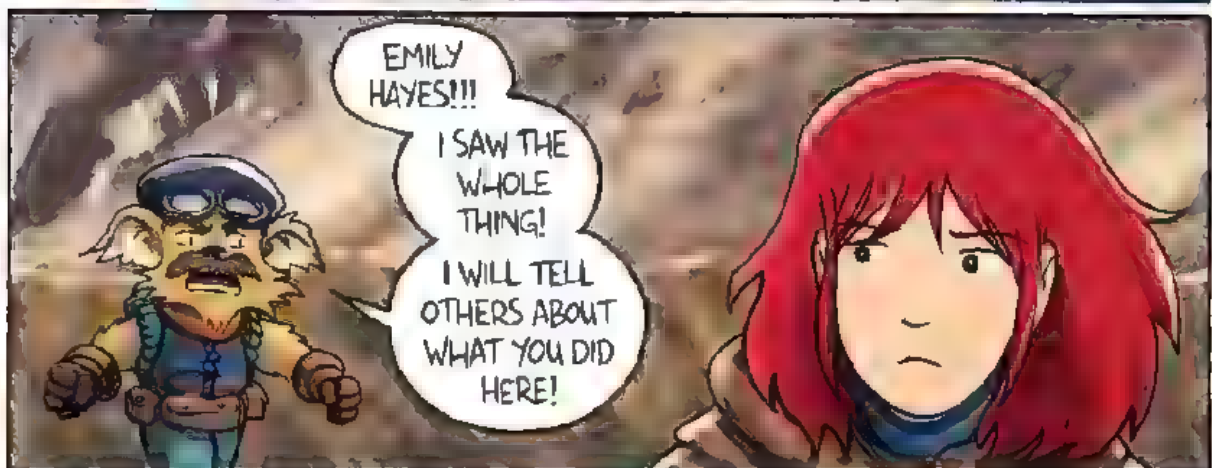
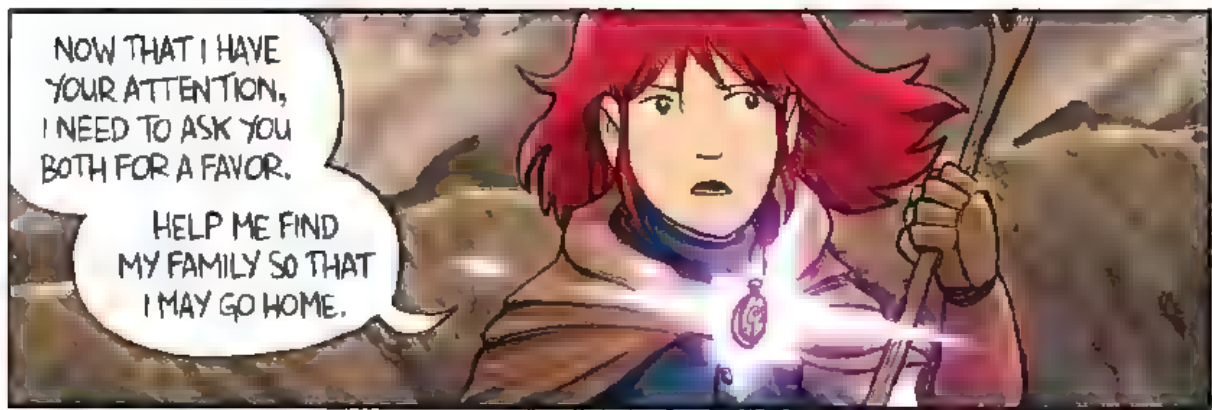


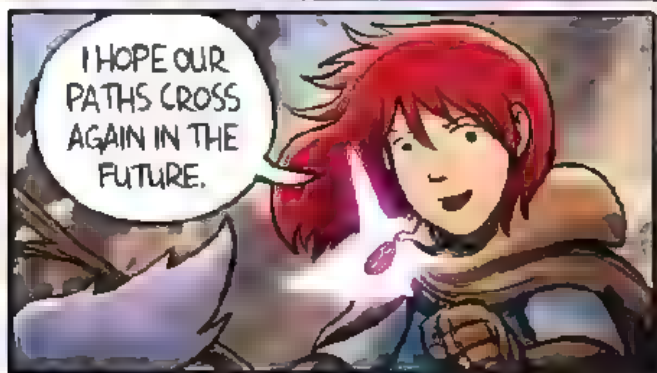


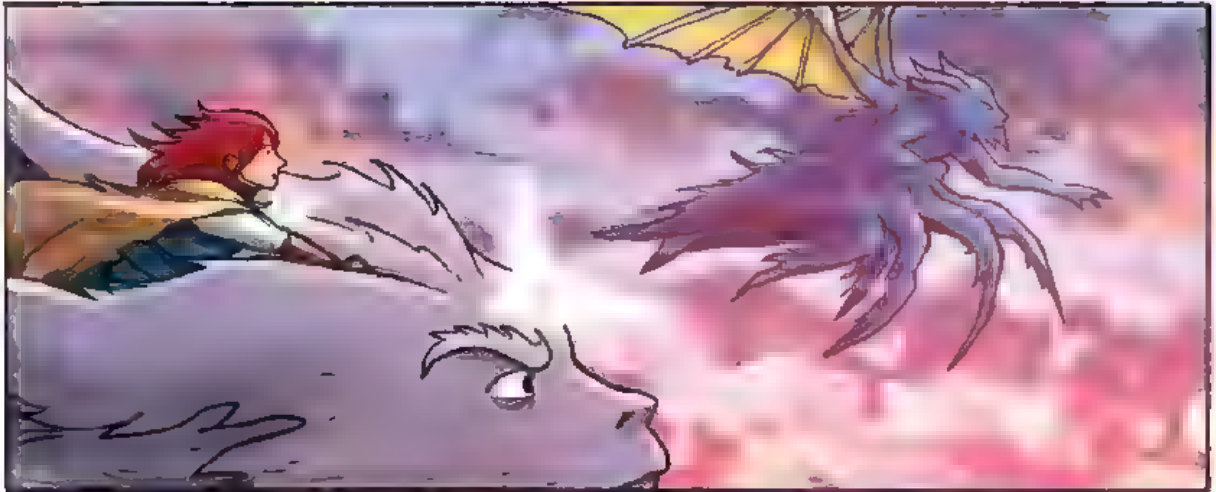
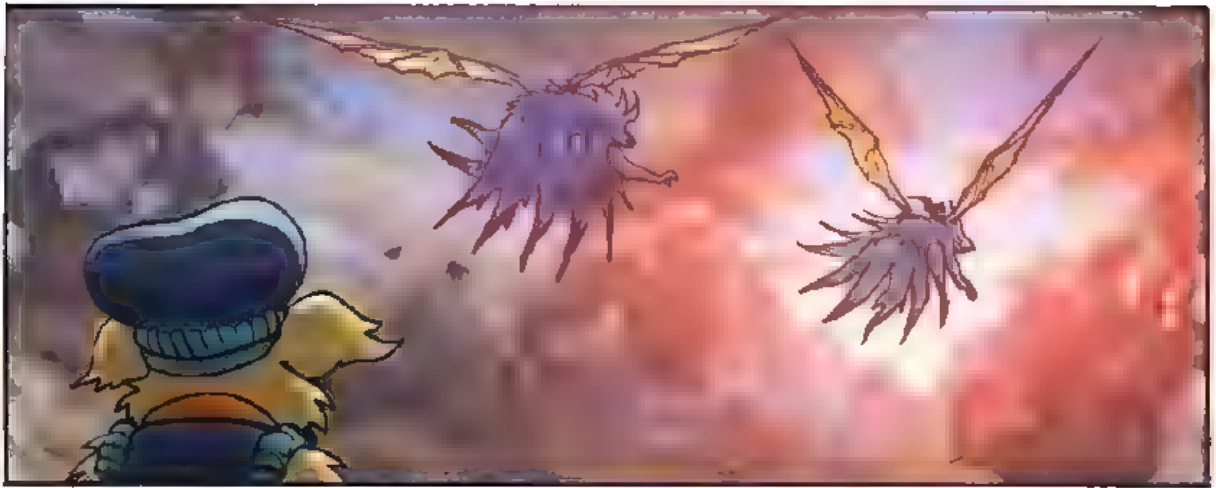


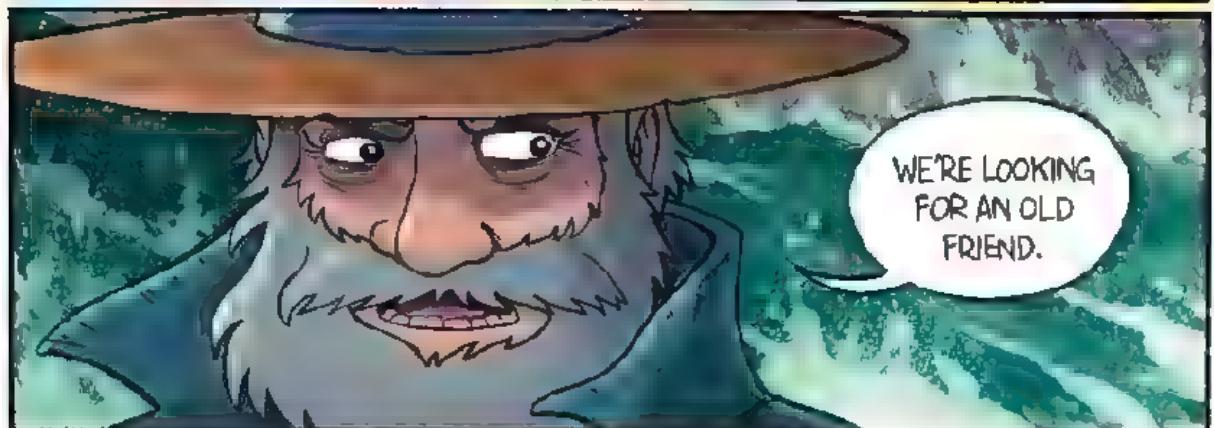


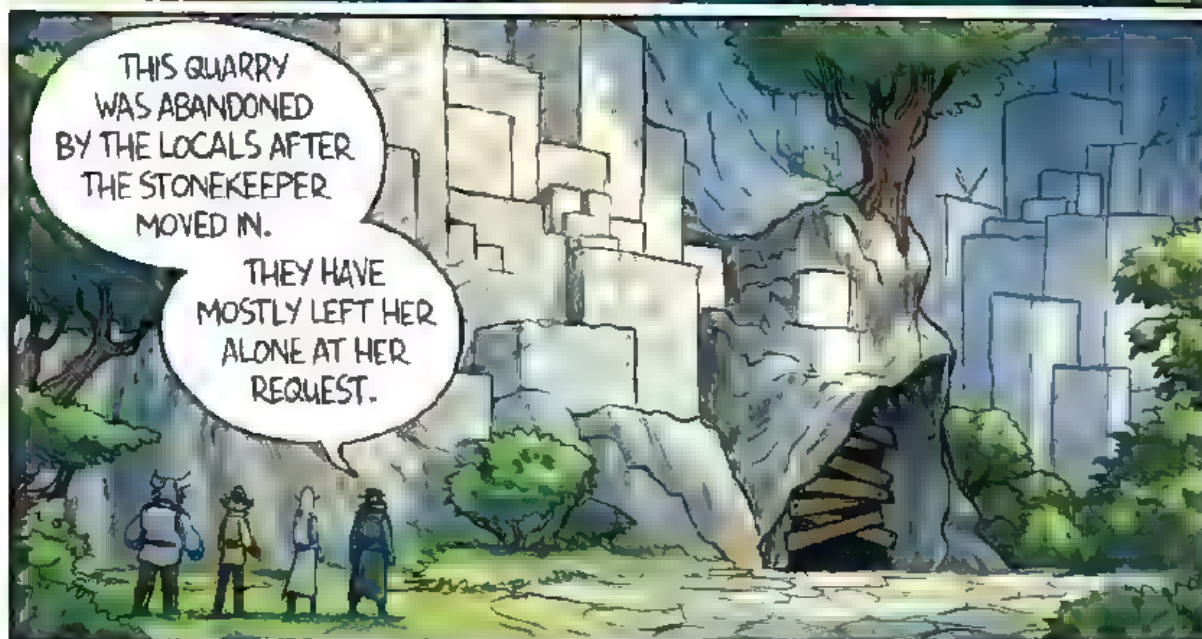
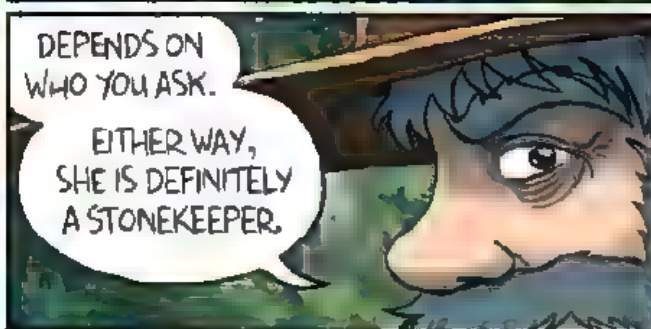


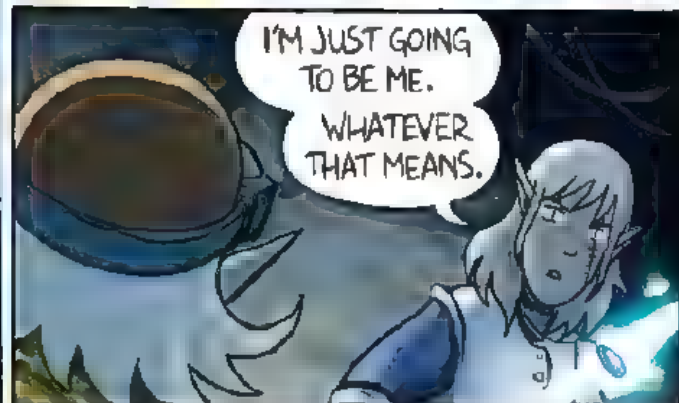
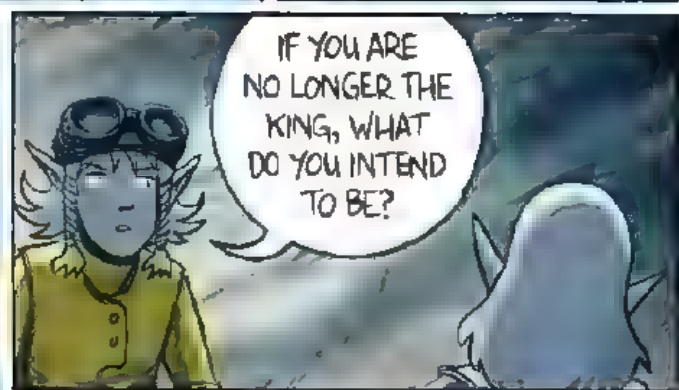


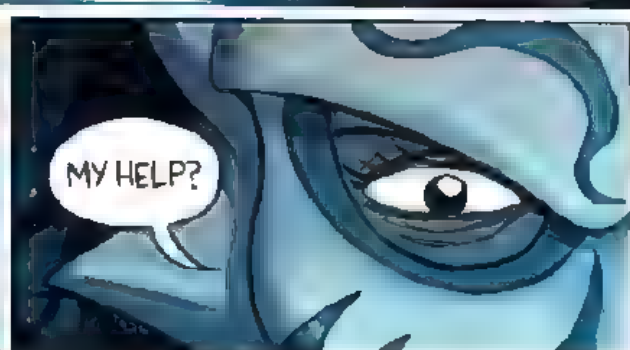
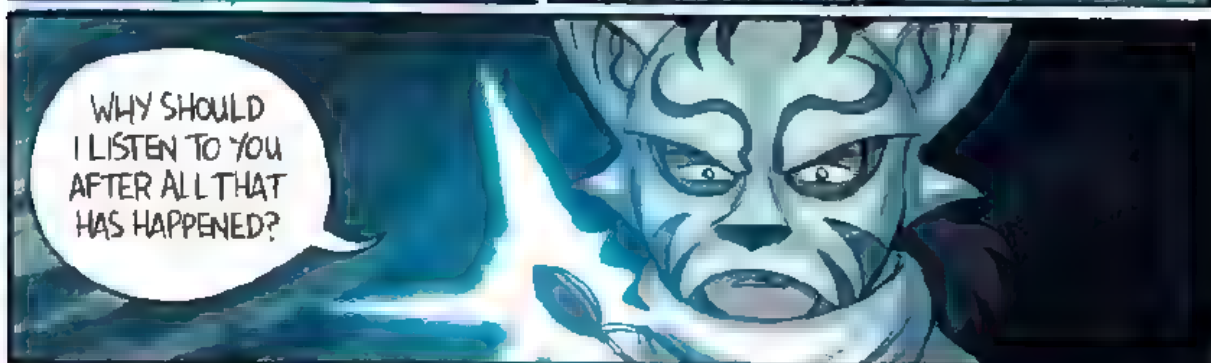


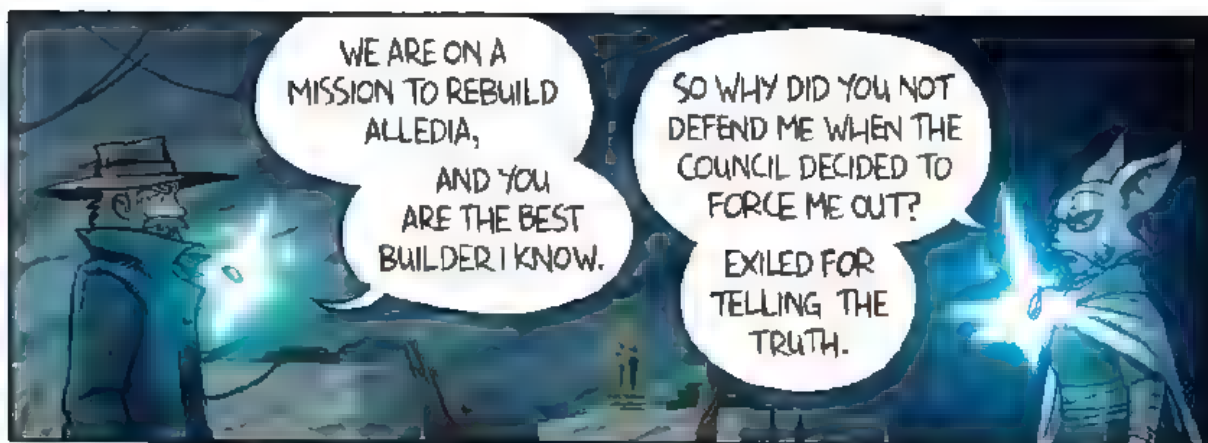












WE ARE ON A
MISSION TO REBUILD
ALLEDIA,
AND YOU
ARE THE BEST
BUILDER I KNOW.

SO WHY DID YOU NOT
DEFEND ME WHEN THE
COUNCIL DECIDED TO
FORCE ME OUT?

EXILED FOR
TELLING THE
TRUTH.



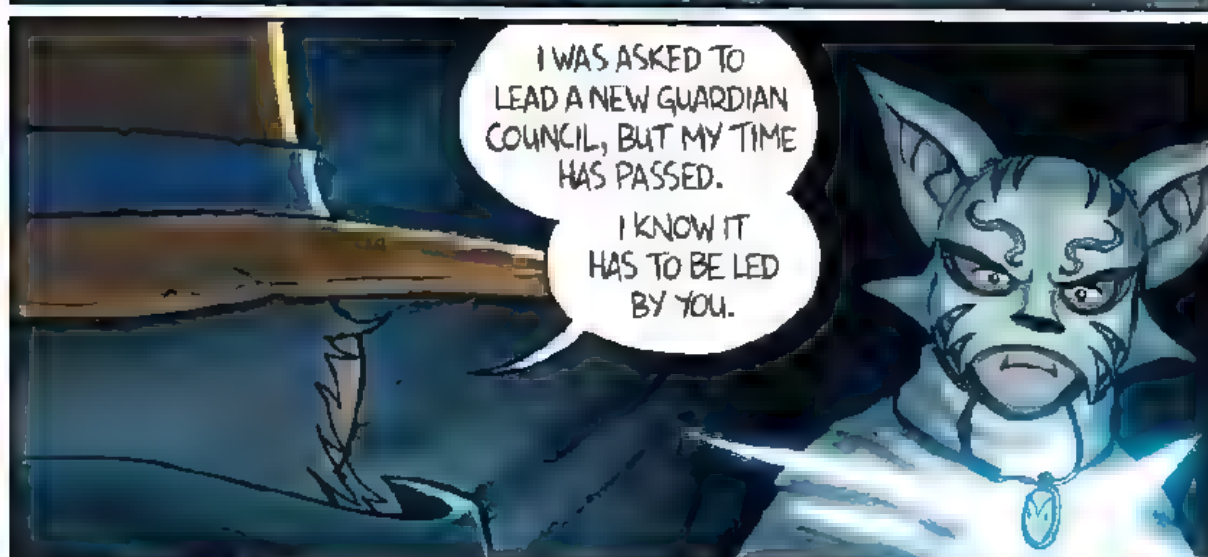
WHEN I QUESTIONED
THE COUNCIL, THEY PUT
ALL THEIR FAITH IN MAX,
AND LOOK WHERE IT
GOT THEM.

YOU AGREED
WITH THEM. YOU
WERE ON THEIR
SIDE.



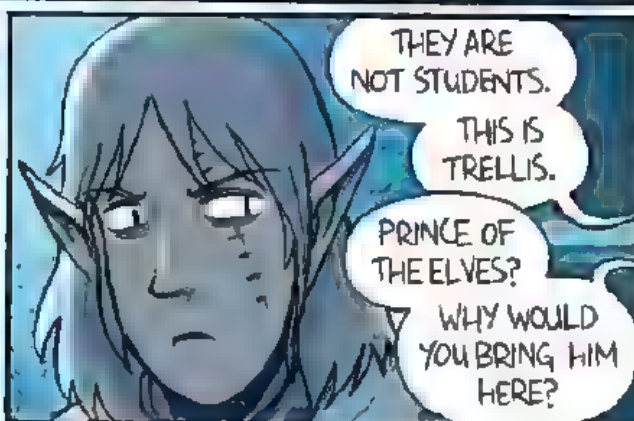
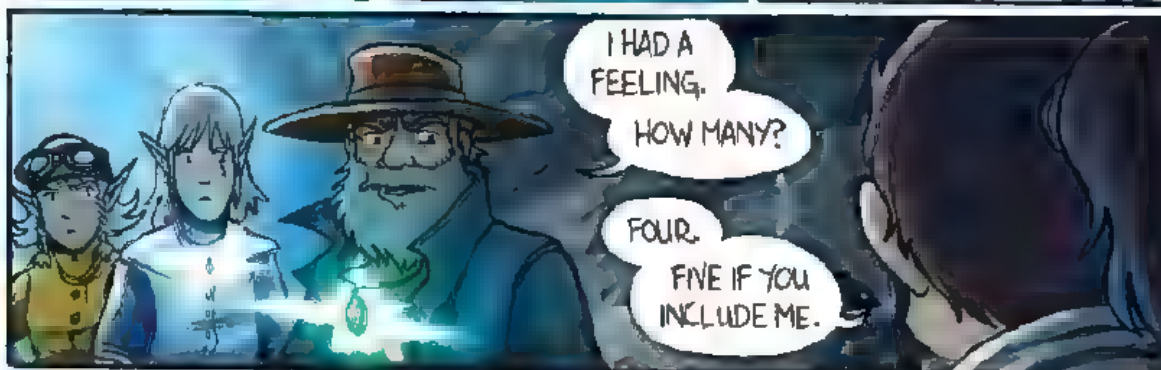
ONE OF MY BIGGEST
MISTAKES, AND FOR
THAT, I AM SORRY.

I'M DETERMINED
NOT TO MAKE THE
SAME MISTAKE AGAIN.



I WAS ASKED TO
LEAD A NEW GUARDIAN
COUNCIL, BUT MY TIME
HAS PASSED.

I KNOW IT
HAS TO BE LED
BY YOU.

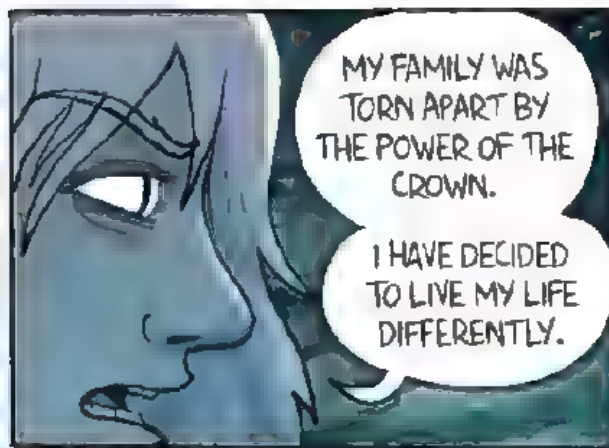




YOU WALKED
AWAY FROM THE
THRONE?

THAT WAS
YOUR CHOICE?

YES.



MY FAMILY WAS
TORN APART BY
THE POWER OF THE
CROWN.

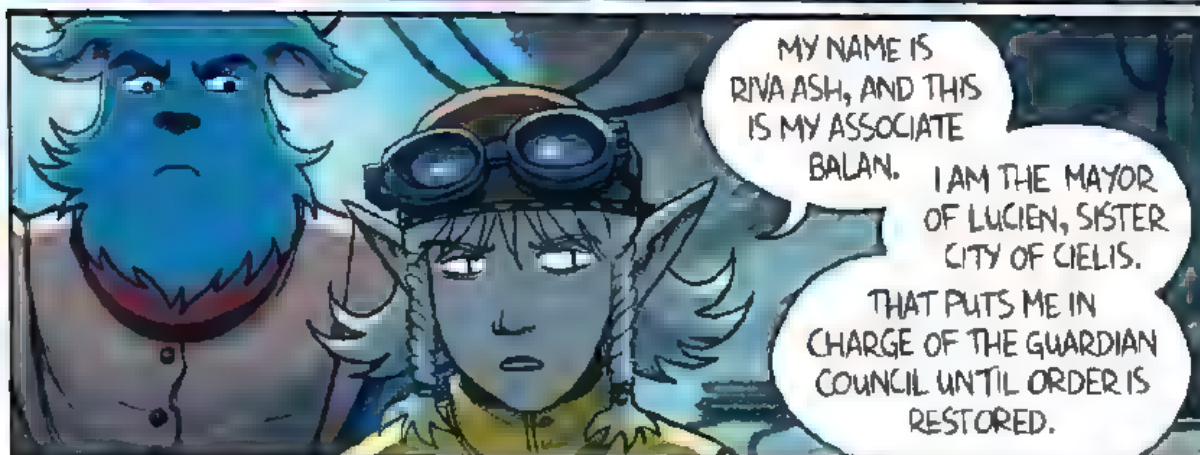
I HAVE DECIDED
TO LIVE MY LIFE
DIFFERENTLY.



IF YOU NEED
ME TO BUILD,
I'LL BUILD.

GOOD FOR
YOU, KID.

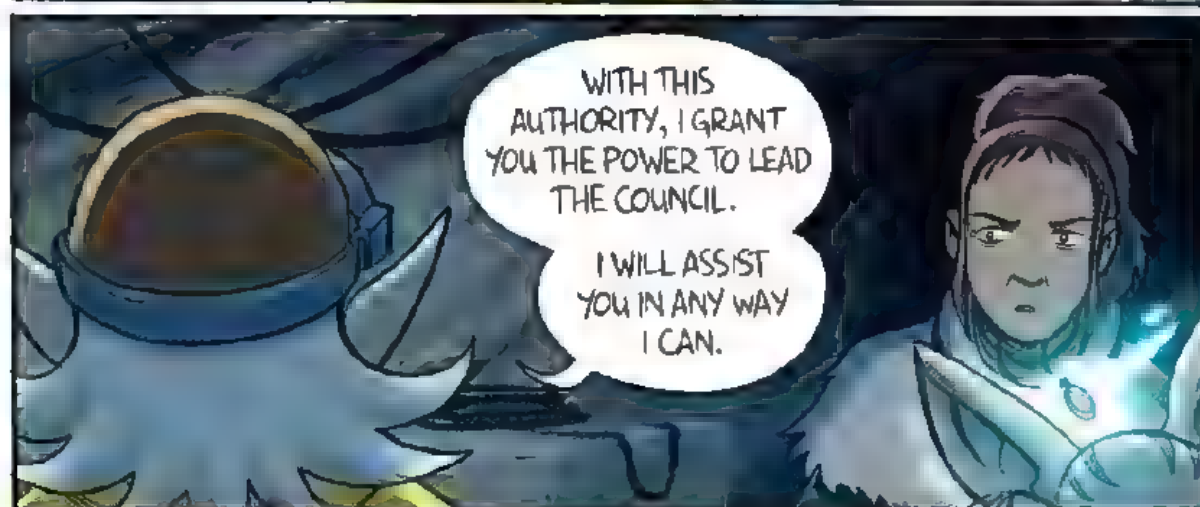
WHO'S THE
OTHER ELF?



MY NAME IS
RIVA ASH, AND THIS
IS MY ASSOCIATE
BALAN.

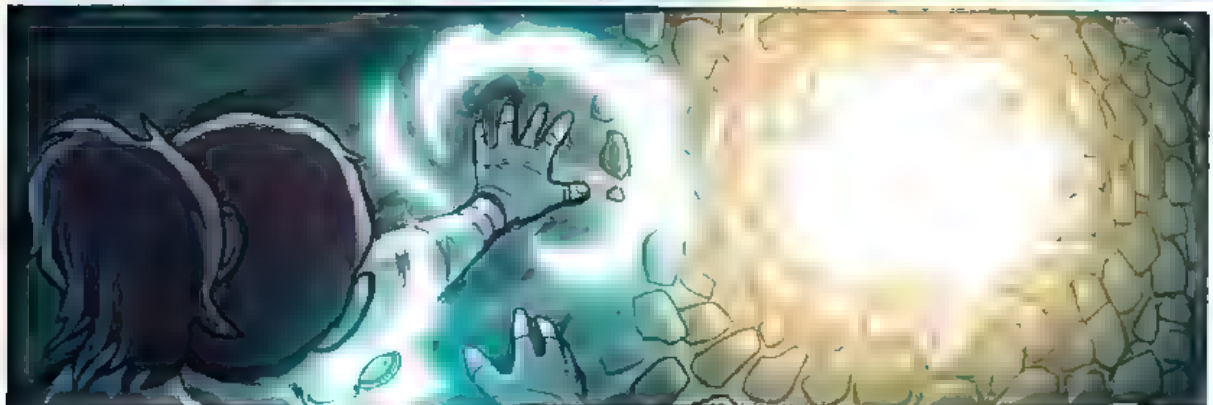
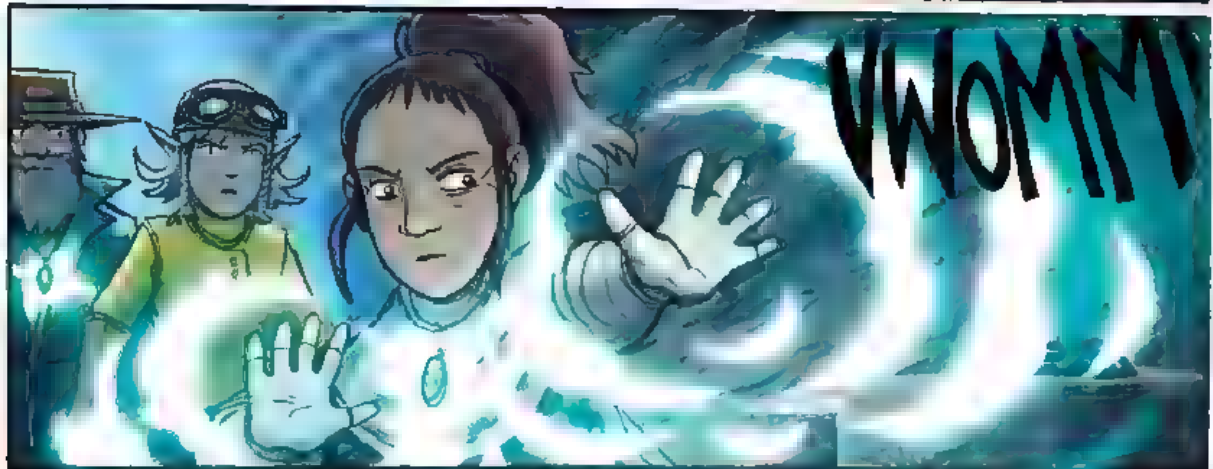
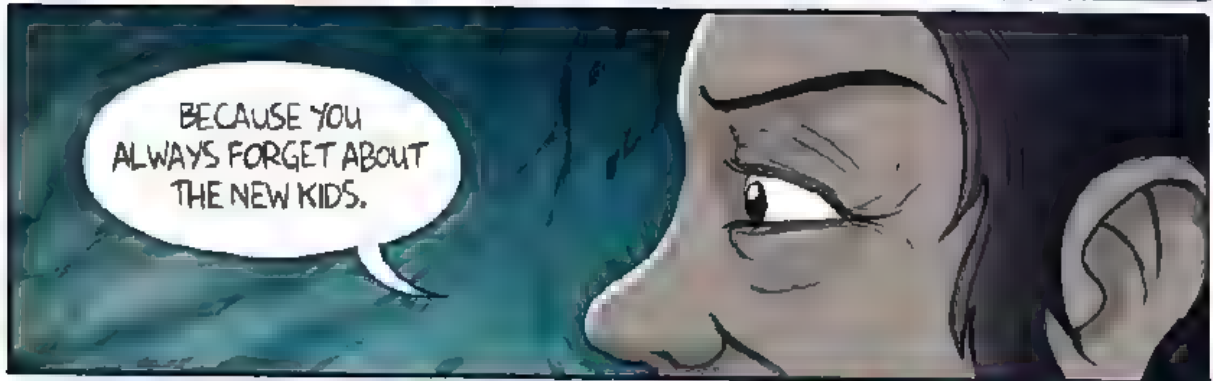
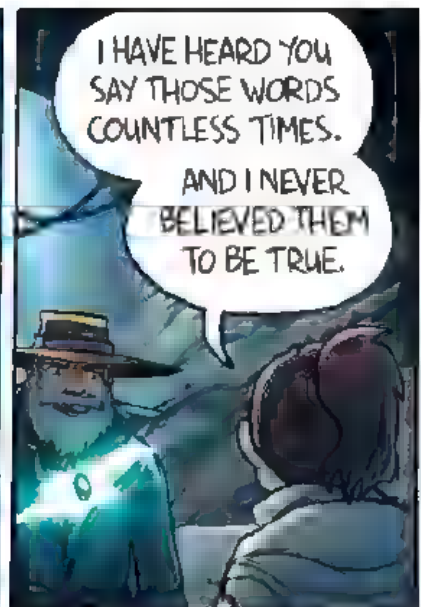
I AM THE MAYOR
OF LUCIEN, SISTER
CITY OF CIELIS.

THAT PUTS ME IN
CHARGE OF THE GUARDIAN
COUNCIL UNTIL ORDER IS
RESTORED.



WITH THIS
AUTHORITY, I GRANT
YOU THE POWER TO LEAD
THE COUNCIL.

I WILL ASSIST
YOU IN ANY WAY
I CAN.

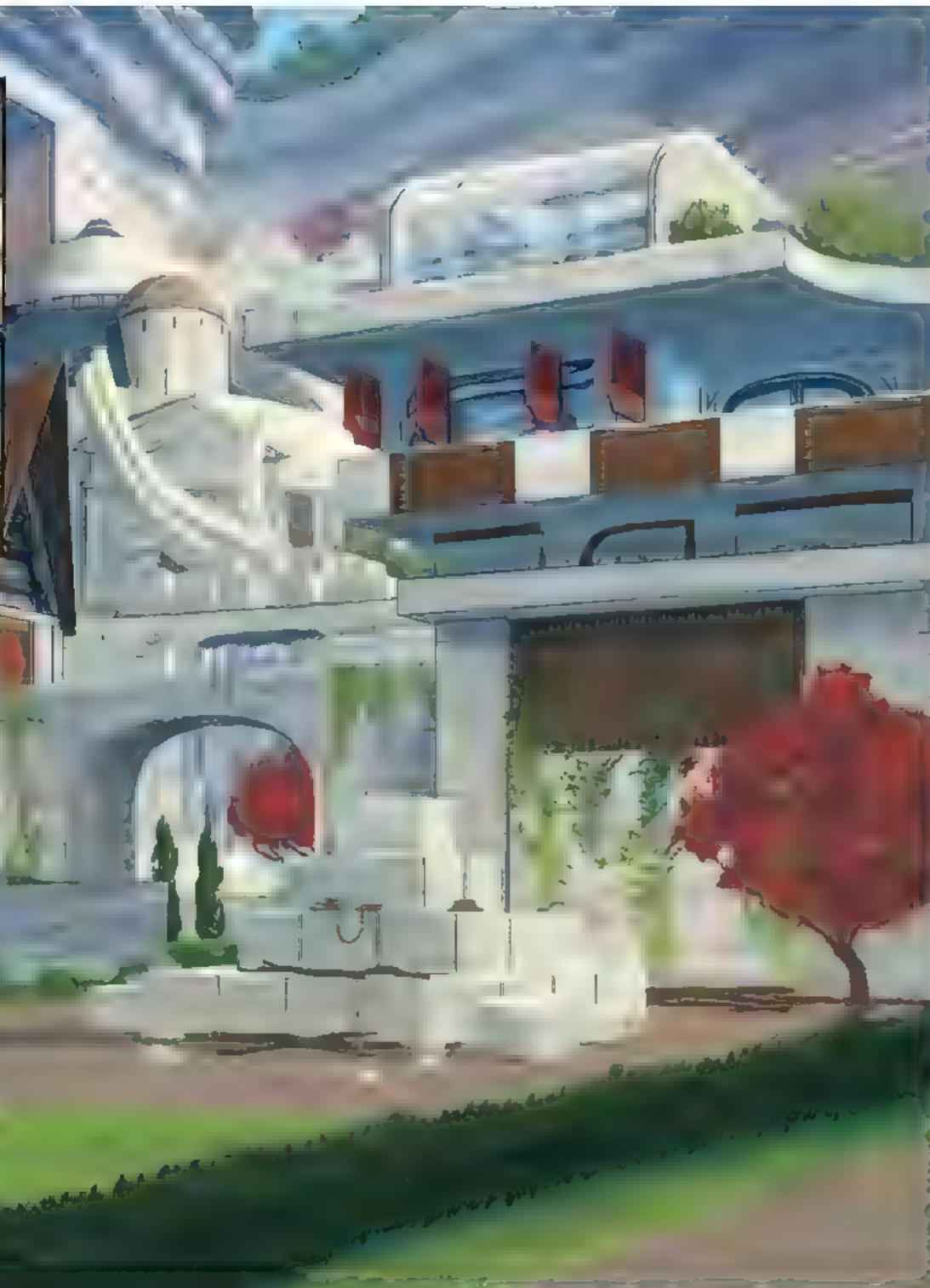


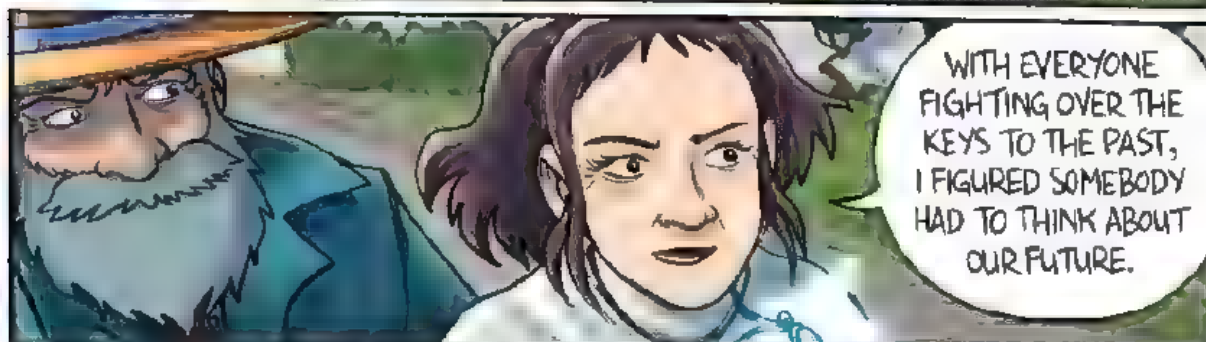
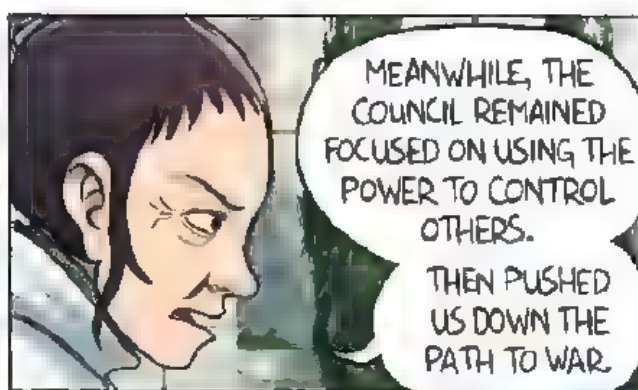


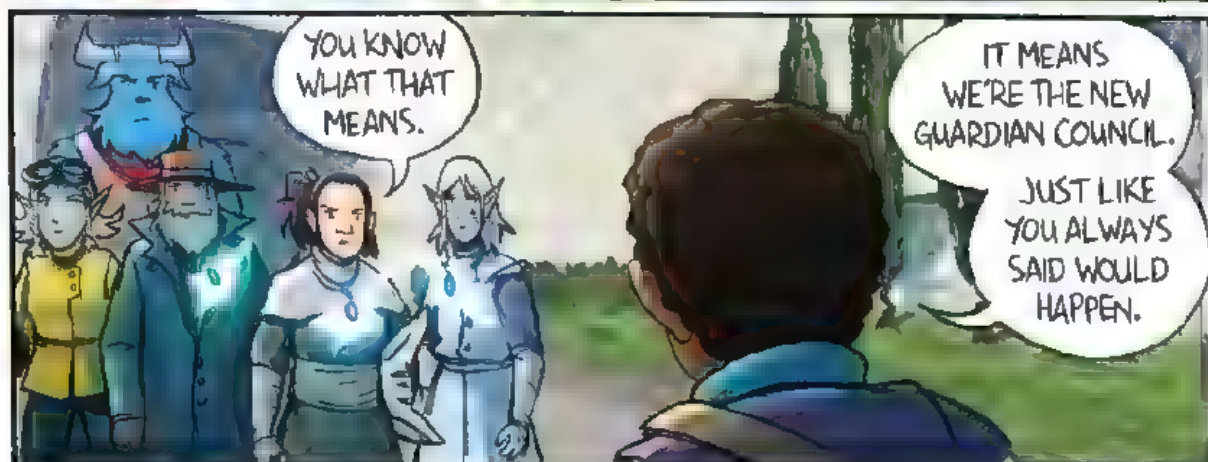
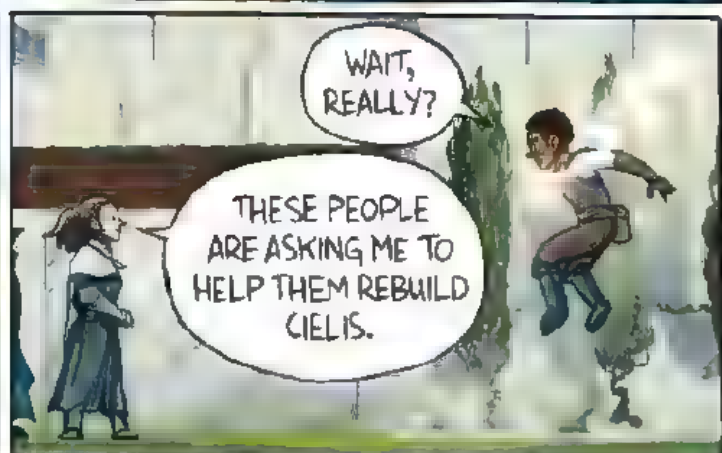
WHAT IS
THIS PLACE?

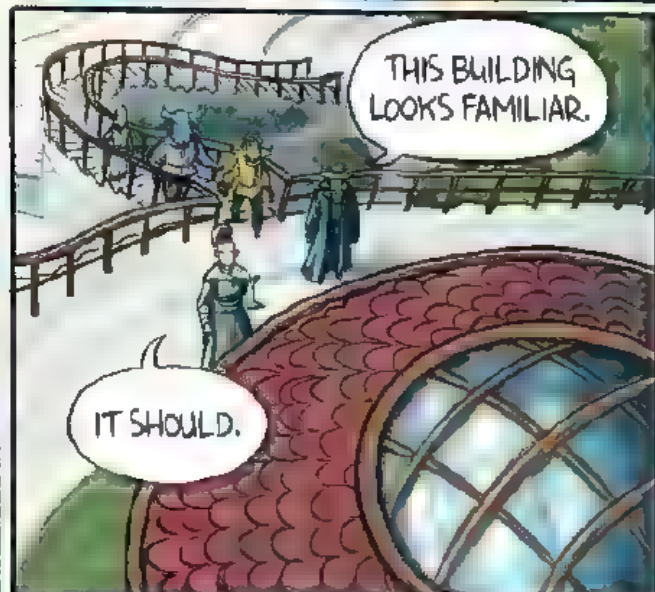
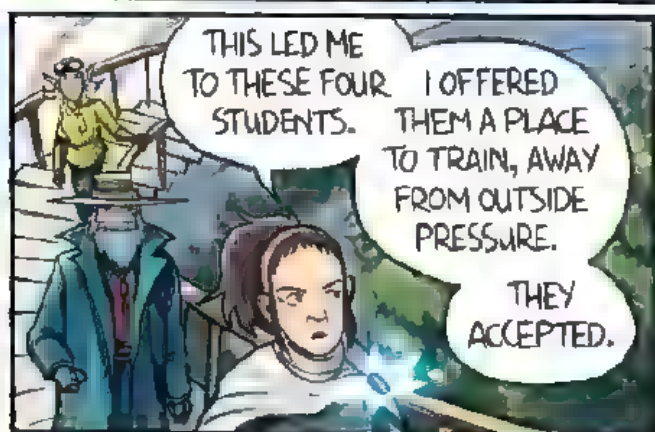
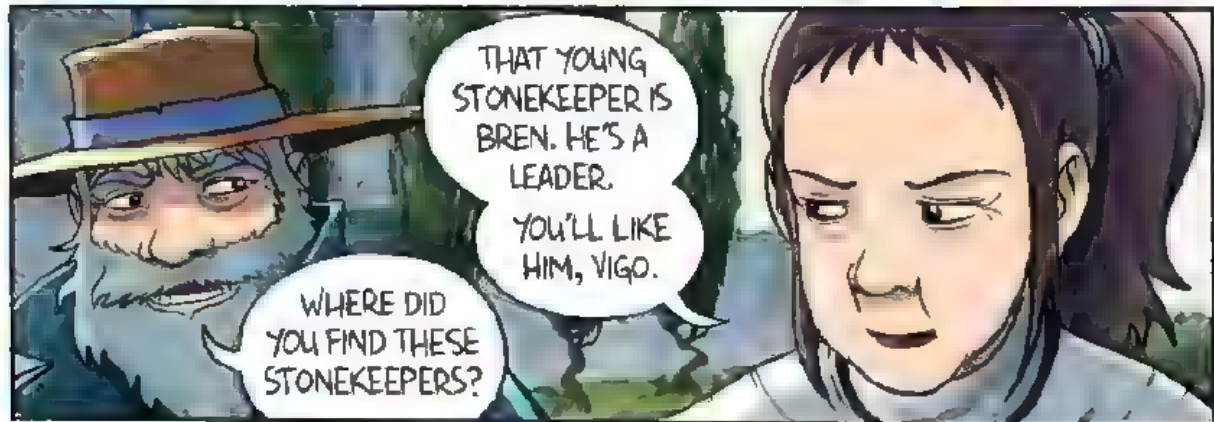
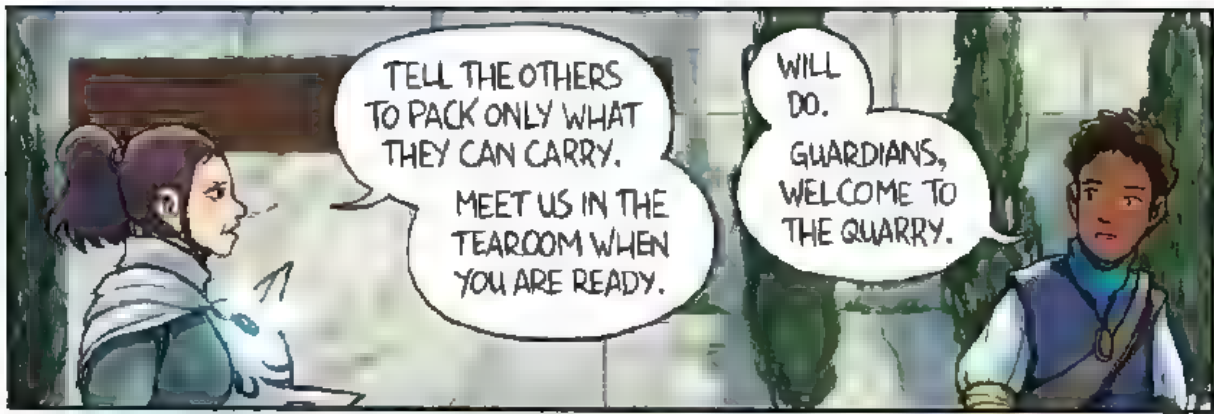
IT'S OUR
TRAINING
GROUND.

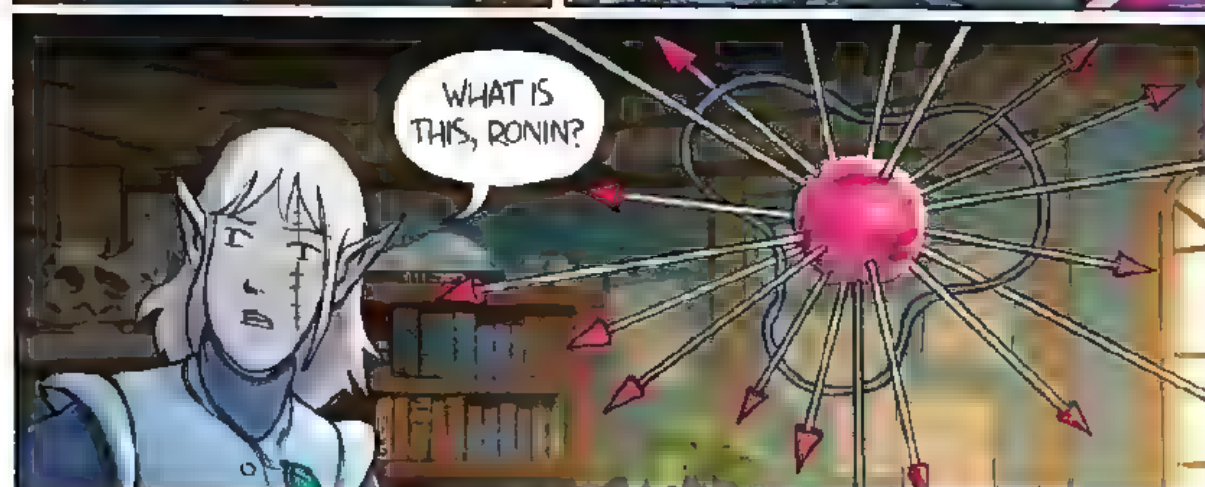
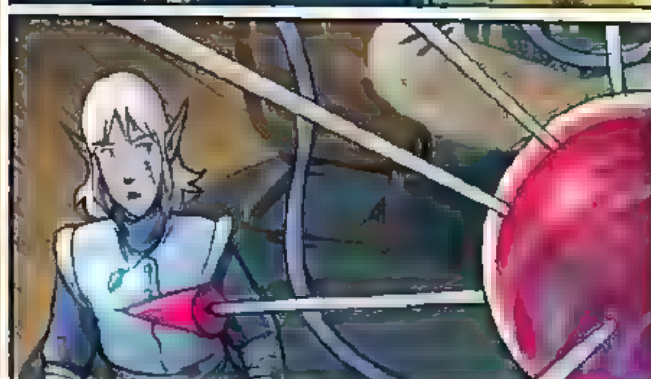
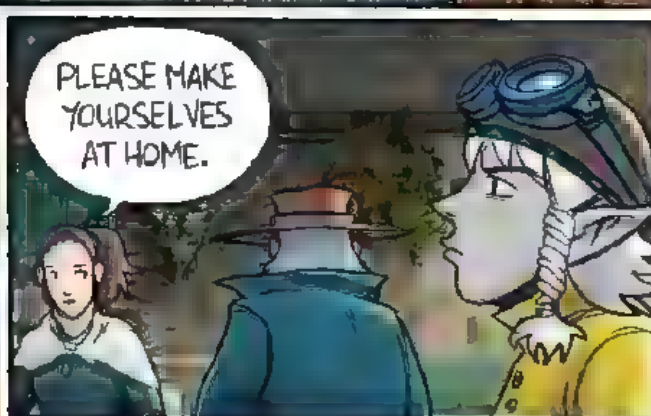
WE NEED YOUNG
MINDS WHO ARE NOT
AFRAID TO BUILD.
SO WE PRACTICE
HERE IN THE
QUARRY.

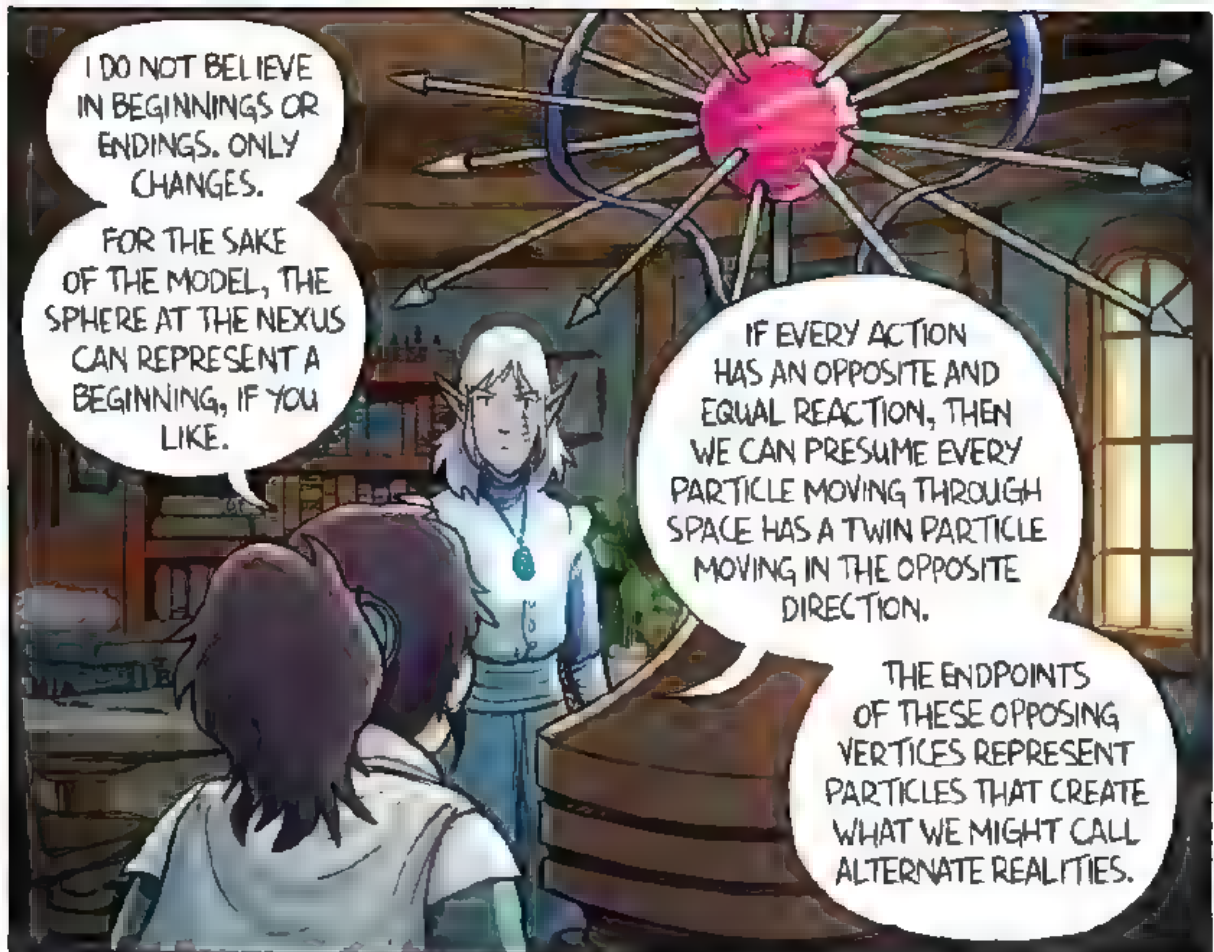
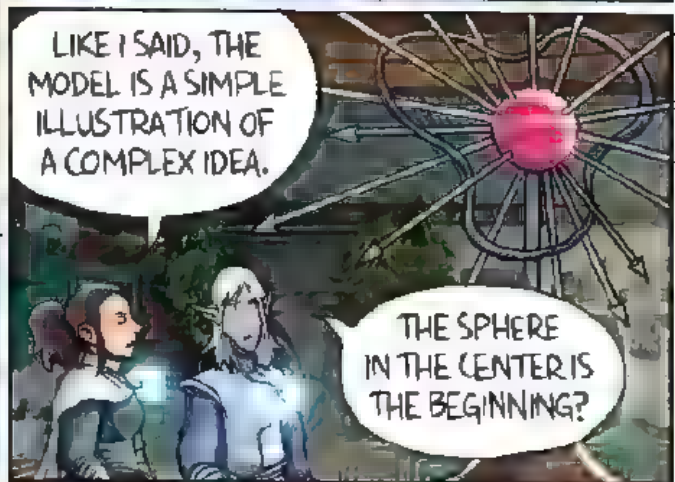
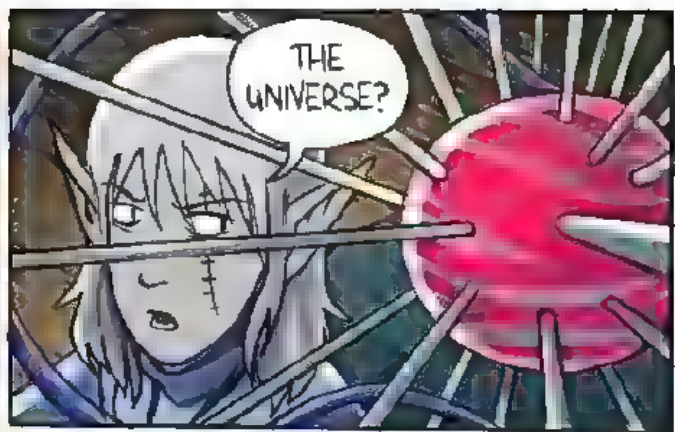
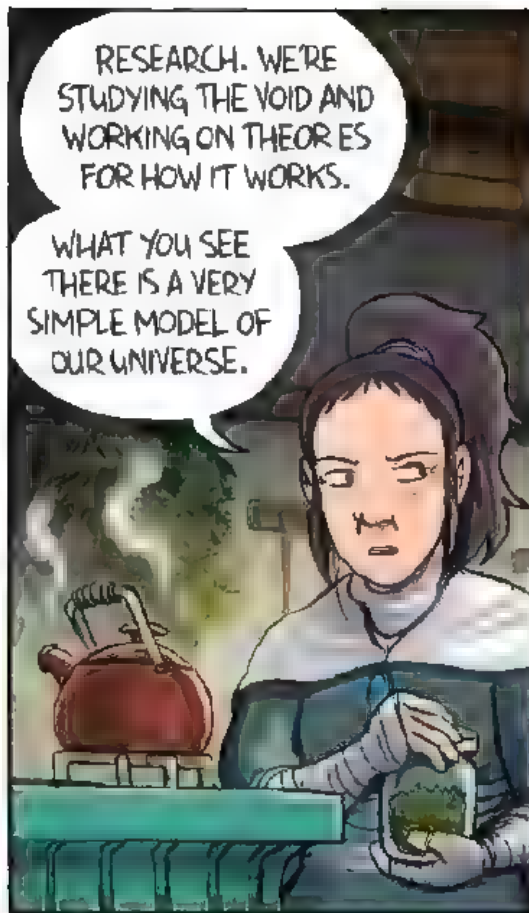


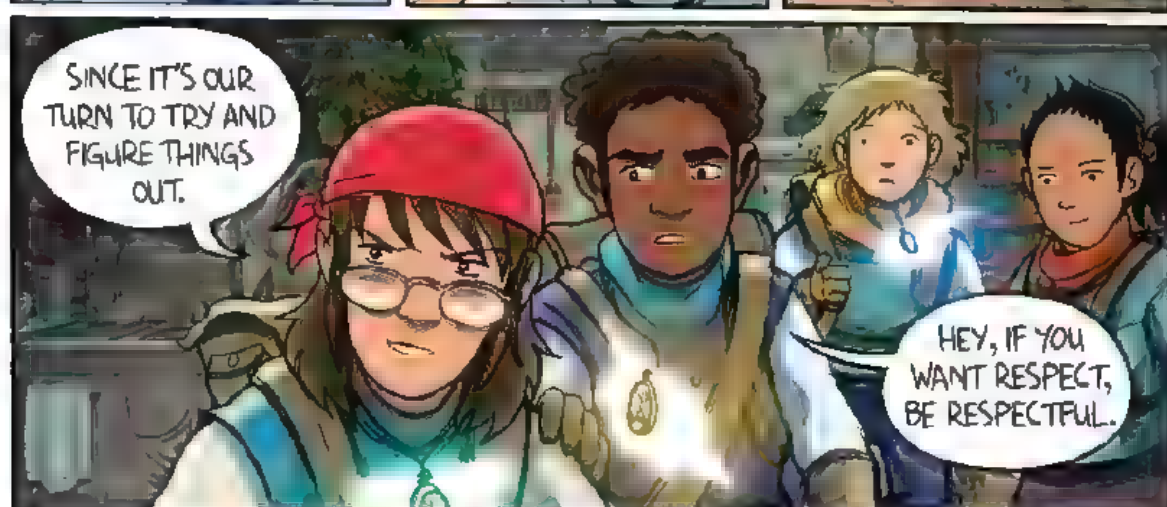
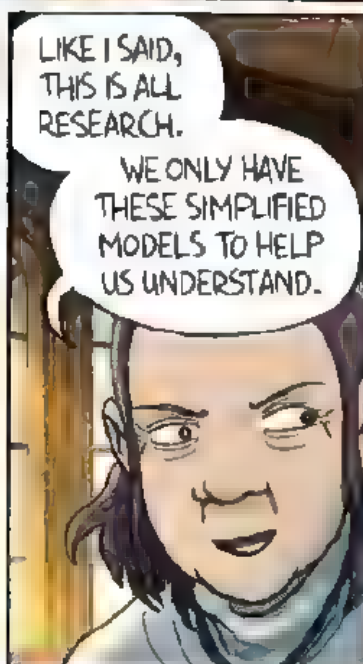
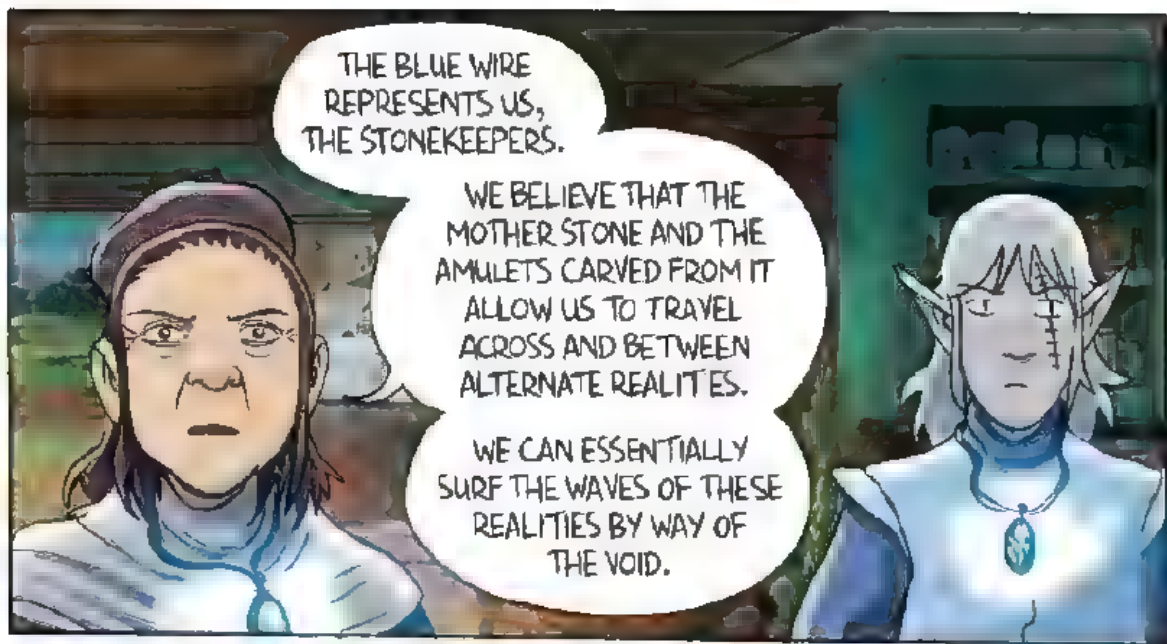














I'VE NEVER SEEN SO MANY STONEKEEPERS IN ONE PLACE.

I'LL ADMIT THAT I'M FEELING A LITTLE UNCOMFORTABLE.

RONIN TELLS US YOU'RE HER STUDENTS.

WHAT DO YOU STUDY HERE?



MOST OF OUR TRAINING HAS BEEN FOCUSED ON BUILDING.

FAST CONSTRUCTION WILL BE NEEDED, SO WE ARE PREPARING TO PROVIDE IT.

WE ARE ALSO WORKING ON SHADOW WRANGLING.

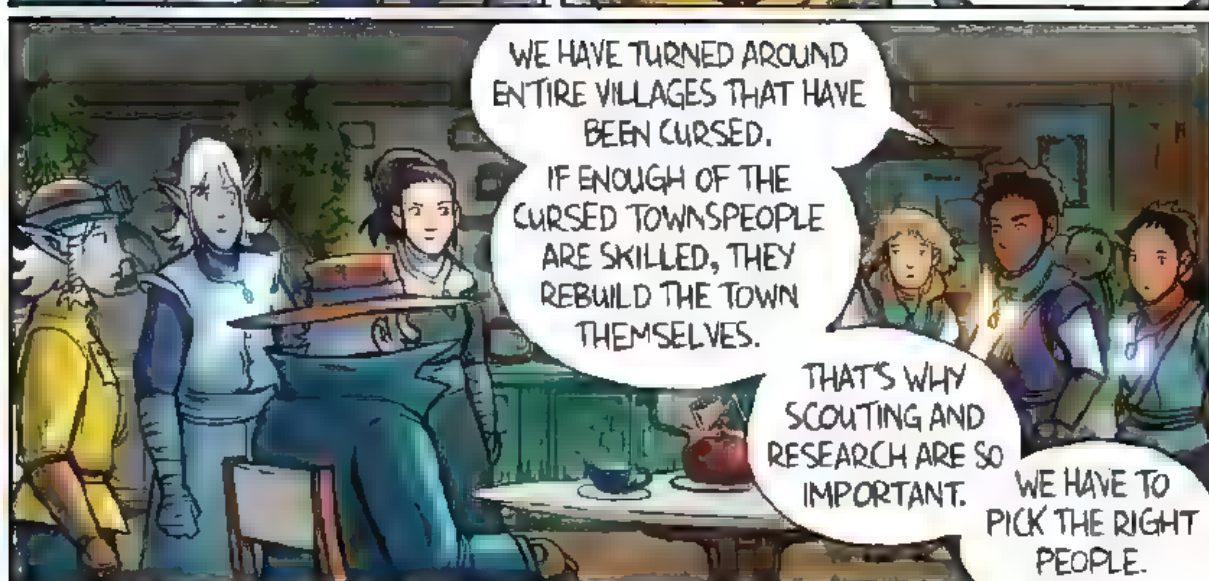
SHADOW WRANGLING?

WE BRING PEOPLE OUT OF THE INFLUENCE OF THE SHADOWS.

MANY OF THE MOST PROMISING BUILDERS ARE AFFLICTED, SO WE NEED TO FREE THEM FROM THE DARKNESS AND RECRUIT THEM TO HELP.

WE ARE TRAINED TO EXPEL SHADOWS AND HELP PEOPLE ESCAPE DESPAIR.

WHEN WE ARE SUCCESSFUL, THEY BECOME GREAT CONTRIBUTORS TO SOCIETY.



WE HAVE TURNED AROUND ENTIRE VILLAGES THAT HAVE BEEN CURSED.

IF ENOUGH OF THE CURSED TOWNSPEOPLE ARE SKILLED, THEY REBUILD THE TOWN THEMSELVES.

THAT'S WHY SCOUTING AND RESEARCH ARE SO IMPORTANT.

WE HAVE TO PICK THE RIGHT PEOPLE.



I HAVE BEEN A STONEKEEPER FOR OVER FIFTY YEARS, AND I HAVE NEVER ATTEMPTED TO BREAK A SHADOW'S CURSE.



WE DIDN'T KNOW IT WAS POSSIBLE.

NOT UNTIL RONIN SHOWED US HOW TO DO IT.



VIGO--

DON'T YOU REMEMBER OUR TALKS?



YES.

YES, DO.



I REMEMBER CLEARLY.

YOU AGREED WITH THE COUNCIL THAT A CURSED INDIVIDUAL-- ESPECIALLY CURSED STONEKEEPERS--COULD NOT BE CURED.

I SAID THAT I BELIEVED THEY COULD CURE THEMSELVES--

AND I WAS OSTRACIZED FOR SAYING THIS. YOU DIDN'T DEFEND ME OR GIVE ME A CHANCE TO PROVE IT.



WHEN A STONEKEEPER
SHOWED SIGNS OF BEING
CURSED OR LOSING
CONTROL, THEY WERE
TREATED AS THOUGH
THEY WERE BROKEN.

IN THE WORST
SITUATIONS, THEY
WERE IMPRISONED
OR KILLED.



WHAT SHOULD
WE HAVE DONE?



THE COUNCIL
SHOULD HAVE BEEN
PATIENT WITH
THEM.

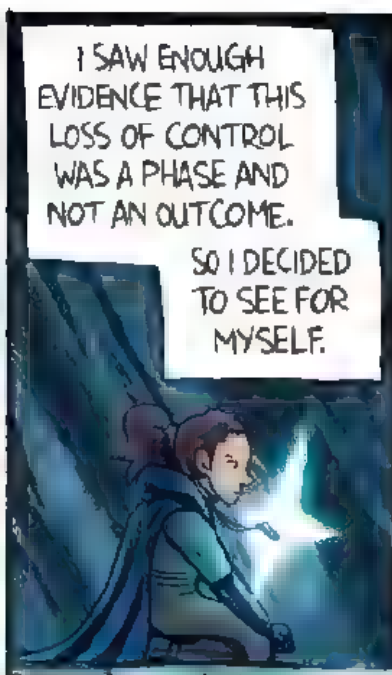
YOUNG BIRDS GO INTO A
FIT OF DISCOMFORT--AN
AWKWARD STAGE--WHEN
THEY MOLT THEIR EARLY
FEATHERS--



THEY GO THROUGH THIS
PROCESS IN ORDER TO
GROW THE FEATHERS THEY
WILL NEED TO FLY.

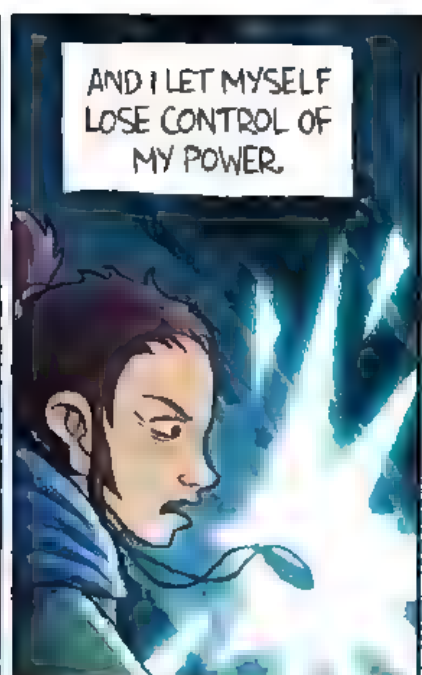


THE COUNCIL SAW
STONEKEEPERS LOSING
CONTROL AS A SIGN OF
FAILURE OR SICKNESS,
BUT I SUSPECTED
THEY WERE
WRONG.

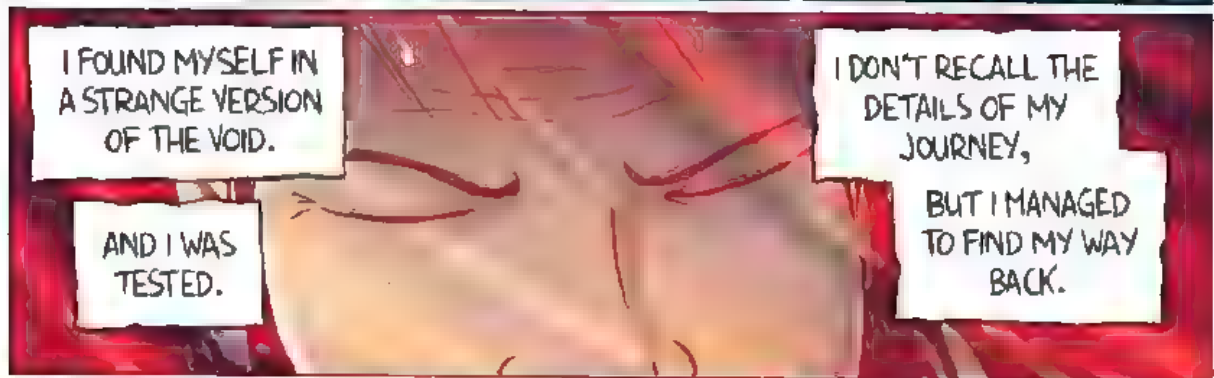


I SAW ENOUGH
EVIDENCE THAT THIS
LOSS OF CONTROL
WAS A PHASE AND
NOT AN OUTCOME.

SO I DECIDED
TO SEE FOR
MYSELF.



AND I LET MYSELF
LOSE CONTROL OF
MY POWER.



I FOUND MYSELF IN
A STRANGE VERSION
OF THE VOID.

AND I WAS
TESTED.

I DON'T RECALL THE
DETAILS OF MY
JOURNEY,

BUT I MANAGED
TO FIND MY WAY
BACK.



UPON MY RETURN,
I FELT DIFFERENT.

I FELT LIKE I HAD
A CLEAR VISION FOR
MY PURPOSE IN
THIS LIFE.

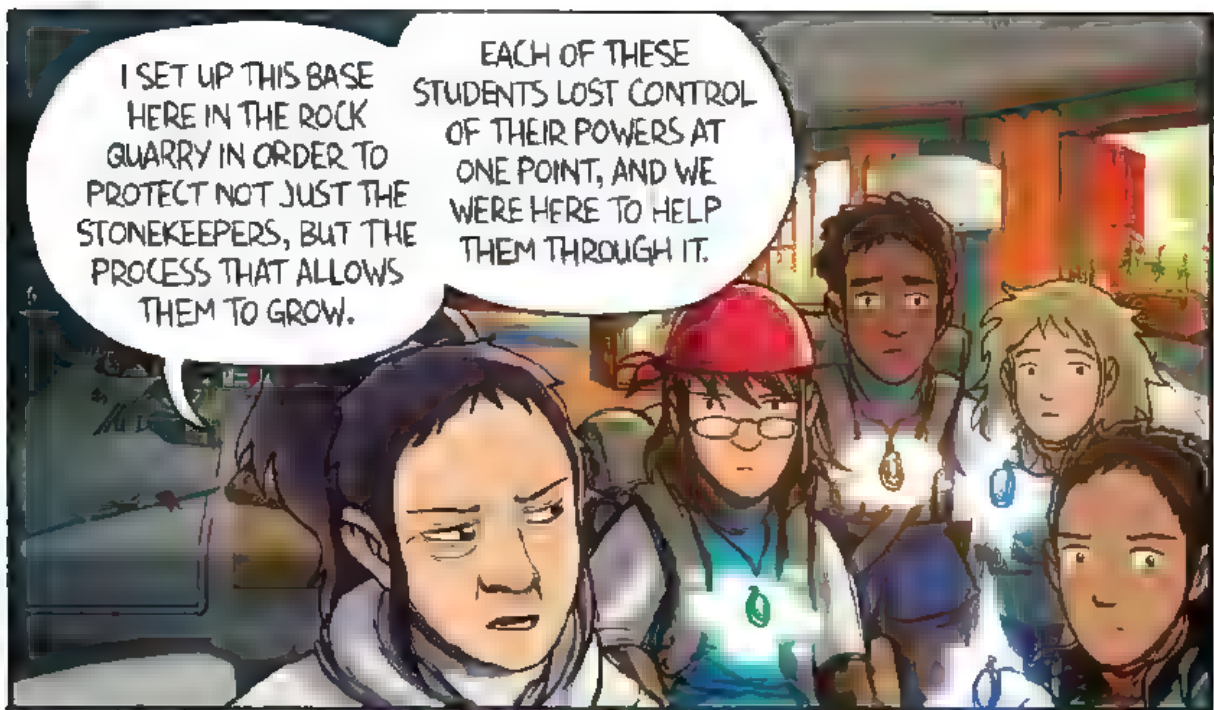
I KNEW WHAT
I NEEDED TO DO.



I WOULD NEED TO
TRAIN NEW BUILDERS,
AND I WOULD NEED TO
TRAIN THEM TO TRAVEL
ON A DIFFICULT PATH.

AND I NEEDED
TO DO IT MYSELF.

THAT'S WHEN
I LEFT THE
COUNCIL.



I SET UP THIS BASE
HERE IN THE ROCK
QUARRY IN ORDER TO
PROTECT NOT JUST THE
STONEKEEPERS, BUT THE
PROCESS THAT ALLOWS
THEM TO GROW.

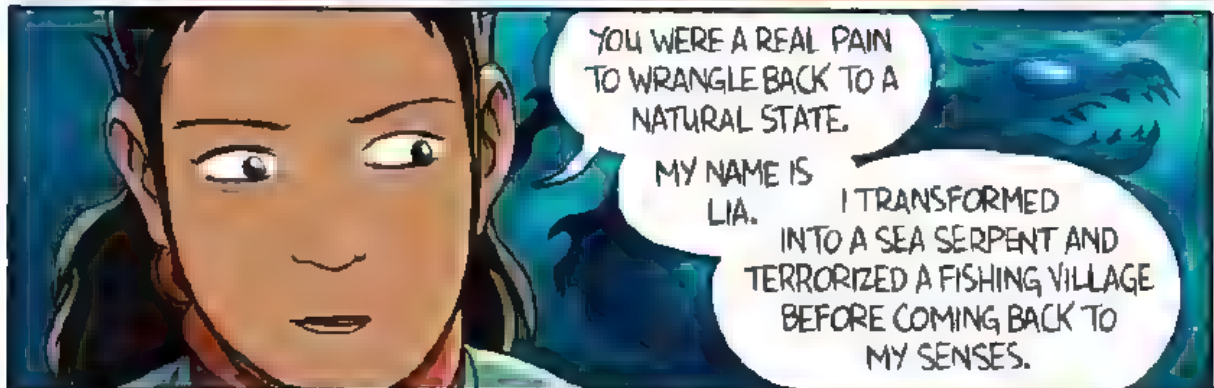
EACH OF THESE
STUDENTS LOST CONTROL
OF THEIR POWERS AT
ONE POINT, AND WE
WERE HERE TO HELP
THEM THROUGH IT.



WE'VE HAD
SOME EPIC
FIGHTS IN
HERE.

MY NAME IS
WEST. WHEN I
LOSE CONTROL,
I TURN INTO A
WYVERN.

DON'T
REMIND
US.



YOU WERE A REAL PAIN
TO WRANGLE BACK TO A
NATURAL STATE.

MY NAME IS
LIA.

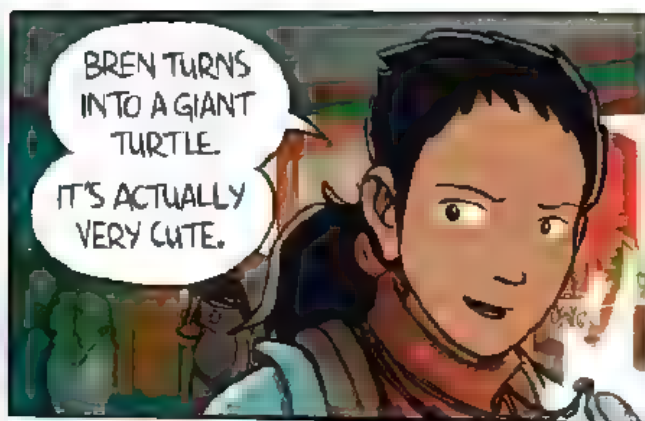
I TRANSFORMED
INTO A SEA SERPENT AND
TERRORIZED A FISHING VILLAGE
BEFORE COMING BACK TO
MY SENSES.

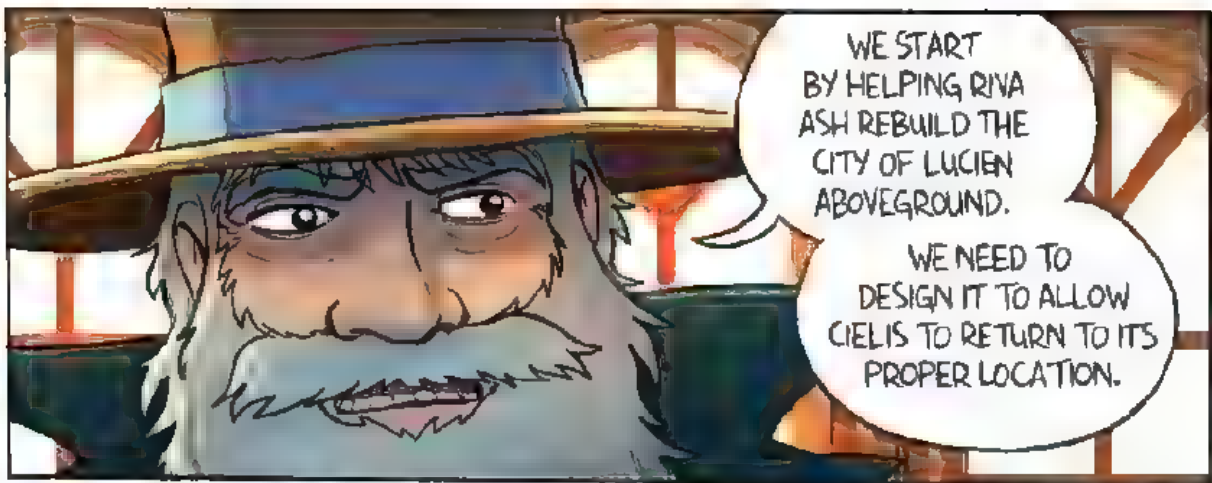


MY NAME IS
JANIS AND MY
GIANT FORM IS
DIFFICULT TO
DESCRIBE.

I SUPPOSE
IT IS--

IT'S
TERRIFYING.





WE START
BY HELPING RIVA
ASH REBUILD THE
CITY OF LUCIEN
ABOVEGROUND.

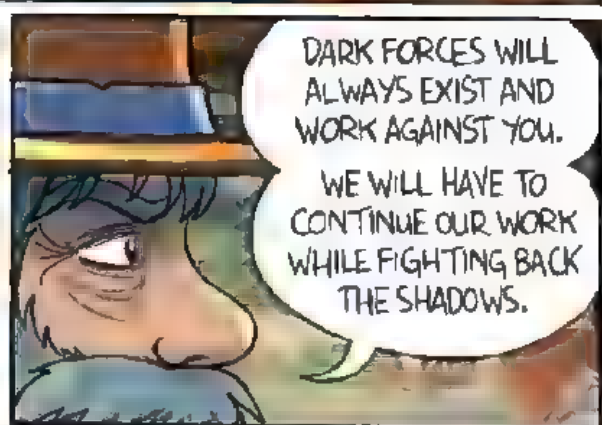
WE NEED TO
DESIGN IT TO ALLOW
CIELIS TO RETURN TO ITS
PROPER LOCATION.



THE REUNIFICATION
OF THE TWO CITIES
AND THE RETURN OF
THE GUARDIAN COUNCIL
WILL SIGNIFY A NEW
ERA OF PEACE IN
ALLEDIA.

THAT
SOUNDS GREAT,
BUT--

WHAT DO
WE DO ABOUT
THE SHADOWS?



DARK FORCES WILL
ALWAYS EXIST AND
WORK AGAINST YOU.

WE WILL HAVE TO
CONTINUE OUR WORK
WHILE FIGHTING BACK
THE SHADOWS.



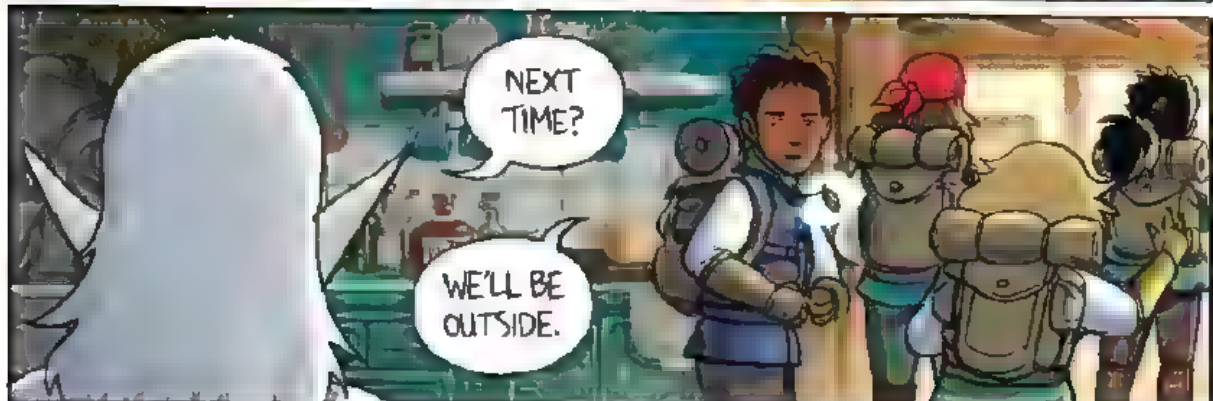
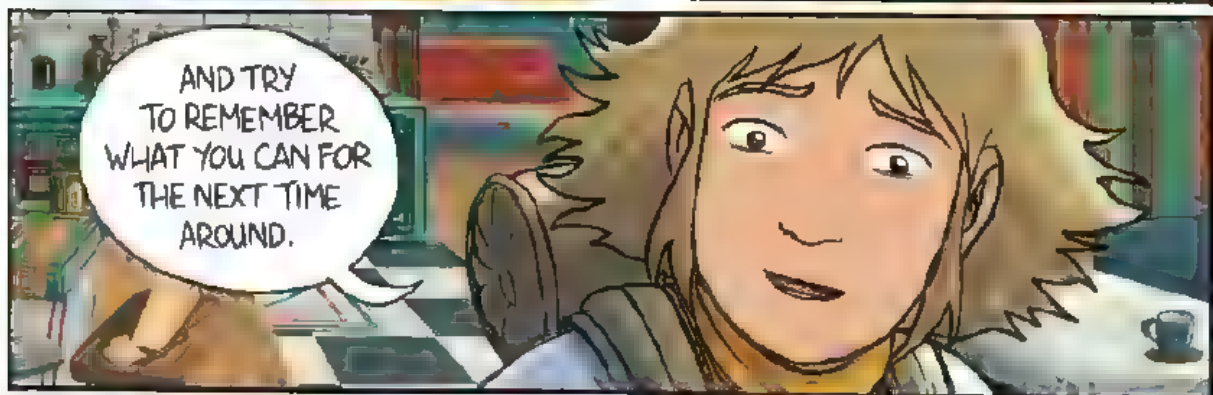
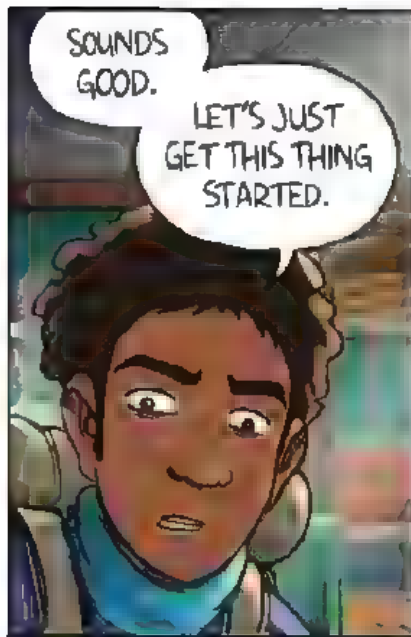
VIGO'S RIGHT.

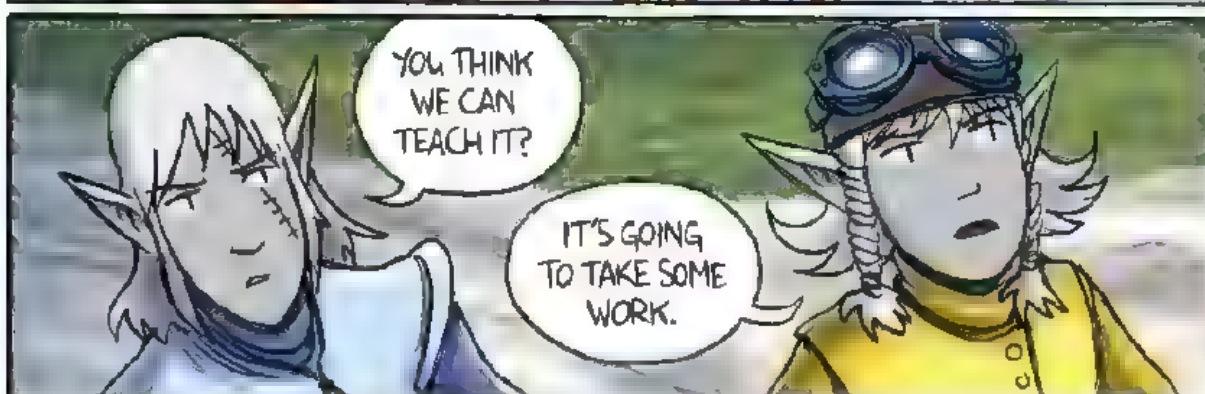
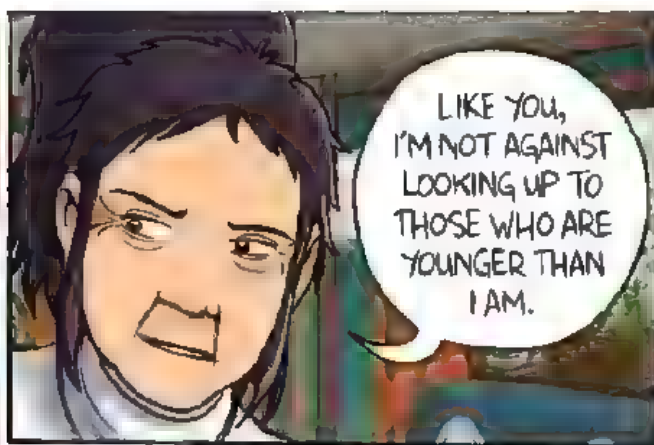
THE DARKNESS
WILL ALWAYS EXIST
AROUND EVERY
CORNER,
BUT WE
CAN'T LET THAT
DETER US.



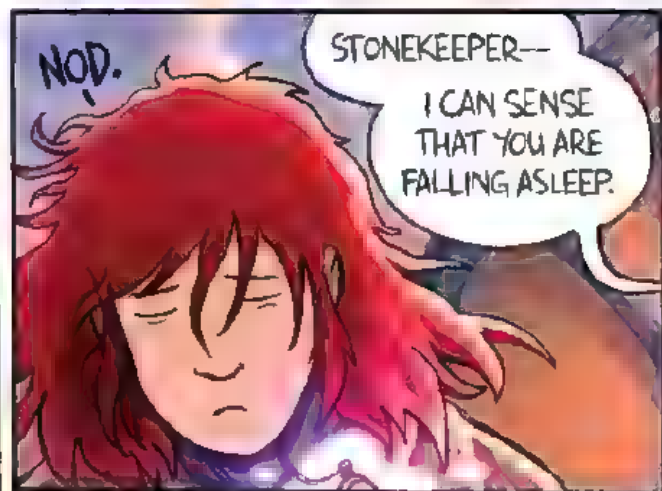
THIS BATTLE WILL BE
WON THROUGH PATIENCE
AND SLOW, MEASURED
STEPS FORWARD.

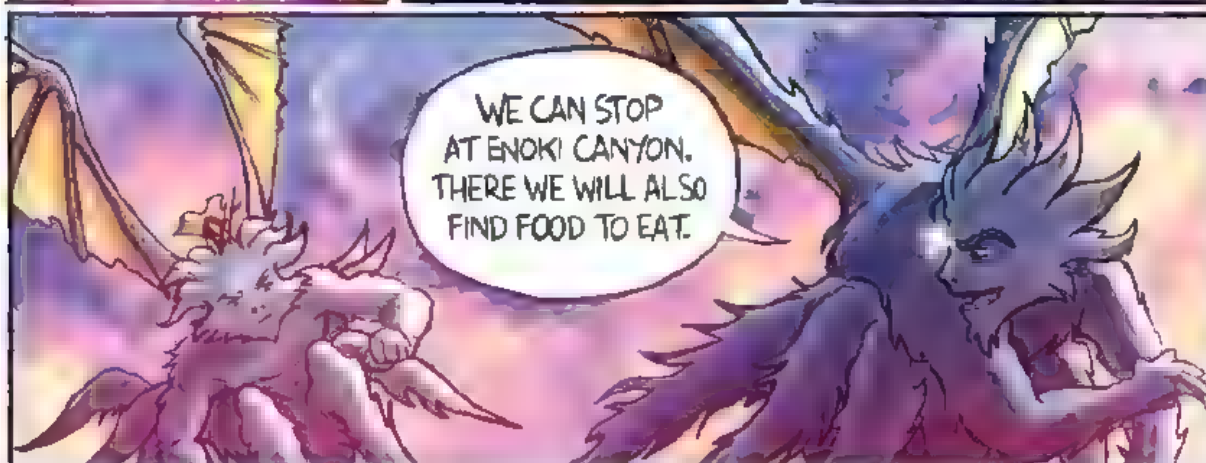
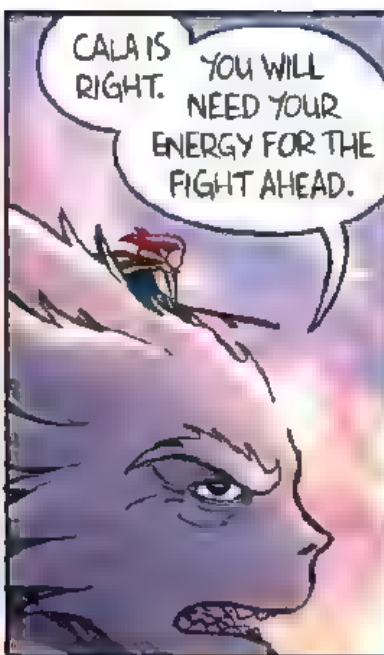
WE BUILD. DEFEND.
AND WE KEEP MOVING
FORWARD.



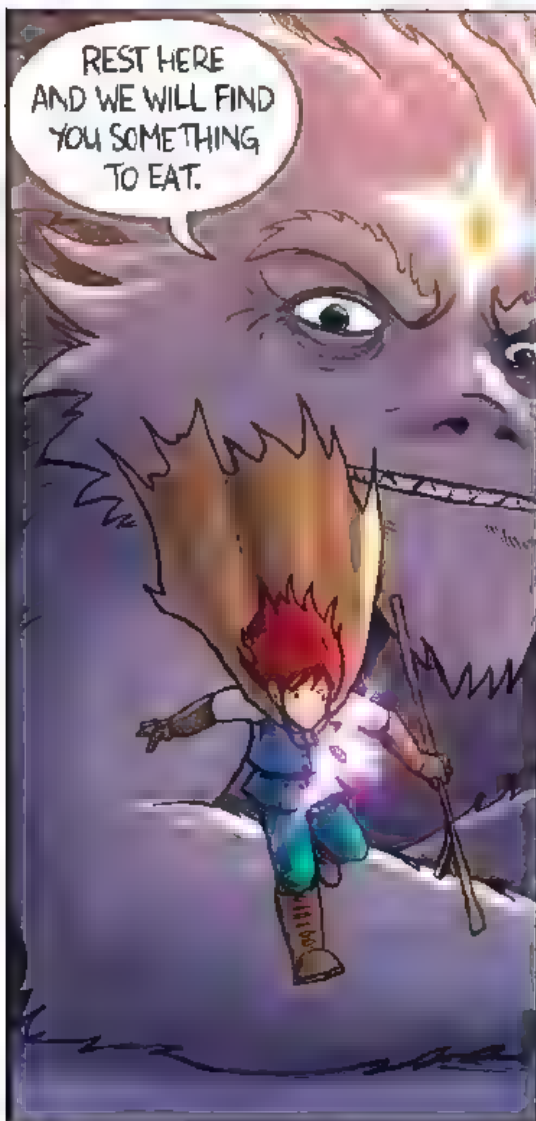
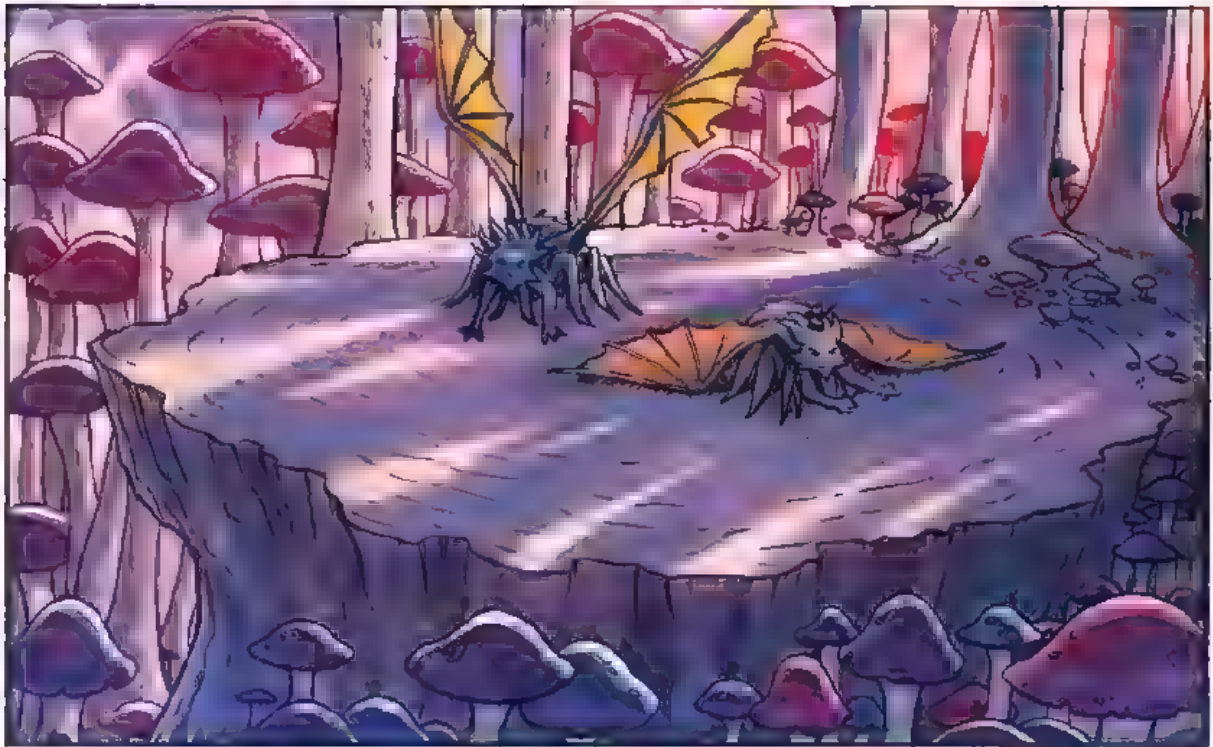












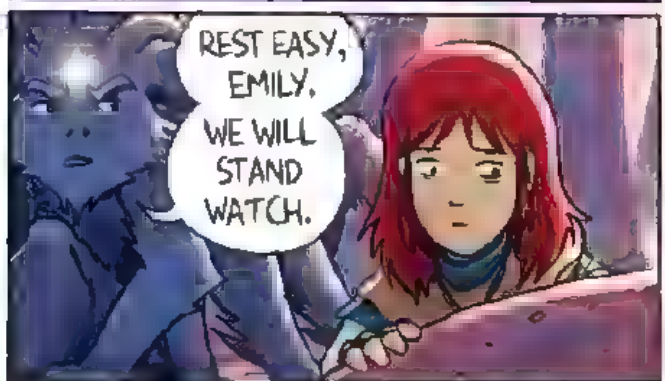
REST HERE
AND WE WILL FIND
YOU SOMETHING
TO EAT.



THANK YOU
FOR HELPING
ME, CALA.




AFTER WHAT YOU
HAVE DONE FOR US,
WE ARE IN YOUR
DEBT.




REST EASY,
EMILY.
WE WILL
STAND
WATCH.






IT IS TIME
FOR YOU TO
CHOOSE A
PATH.




YOU SPEAK
AS IF YOU ARE
IN CONTROL.

YOU HAVE NO
POWER OVER ME,
IKOL.



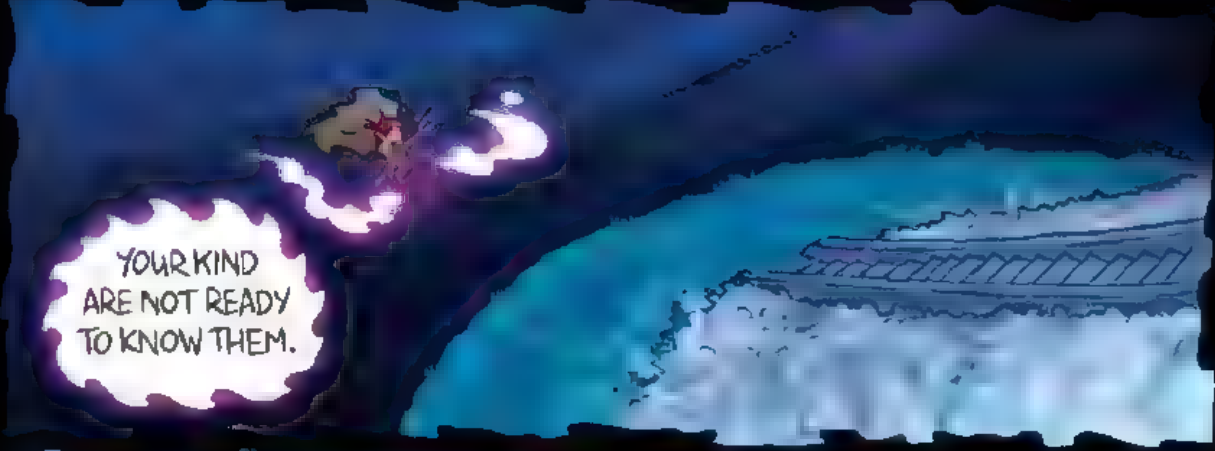
YOU ARE
RIGHT.

BUT WE ARE
BOTH SERVANTS
OF MY MASTERS.




WHO ARE THESE
MASTERS YOU KEEP
TALKING ABOUT?

THEY EXIST
AROUND US BUT
ARE NOT SEEN.




YOUR KIND
ARE NOT READY
TO KNOW THEM.




MY KIND?
YOU MEAN
HUMANS?

AMONG
OTHERS.



WHAT ABOUT
ME?
AM I READY
TO KNOW WHO
THEY ARE?




I CAN SHOW
YOU HOW TO
CONTACT THEM.

YES.
SHOW
ME.




MY MASTERS DO
NOT COMMUNICATE
WITH JUST ANYONE.

THEY ARE
SELECTIVE.




AND THEY HAVE
TAKEN AN INTEREST
IN YOU.

THEY KNOW
WHO I AM?



THEY HAVE BEEN
WATCHING YOUR
JOURNEY CLOSELY.



WHAT DO
THEY WANT?



THEY NEED
YOUR HELP.

THEIR HOME PLANET
IS LOCATED IN A NEARBY
GALAXY AND IT IS DYING.

THEY ARE HERE TO SEE IF
OTHER LIFE-FORMS CAN
SUCCEED WHERE THEY
HAVE FAILED.

WHAT
HAPPENED
THERE?

THEIR HABITAT
IS COMPROMISED
AND THEY WANT TO
REVERSE COURSE.

THEY ARE
HOPING SOMEONE
HERE CAN HELP
THEM FIND A
SOLUTION.


WHERE
ARE THEY
NOW?

THEY ARE
RIGHT HERE IN
THIS ROOM.

THEY EXIST ON A
PARALLEL TIMELINE
THAT CAN BE ACCESSED
BY THE POWER OF
THE STONE.


YOUR POWERS
CAN GENERATE WAVES
OF ENERGY THAT YOU
MAY USE TO SHINE
A LIGHT ON THIS
HIDDEN WORLD.

IT WILL SIMPLY
REQUIRE FINDING THE
RIGHT WAVELENGTH
AND INFUSING IT
WITH ENERGY.

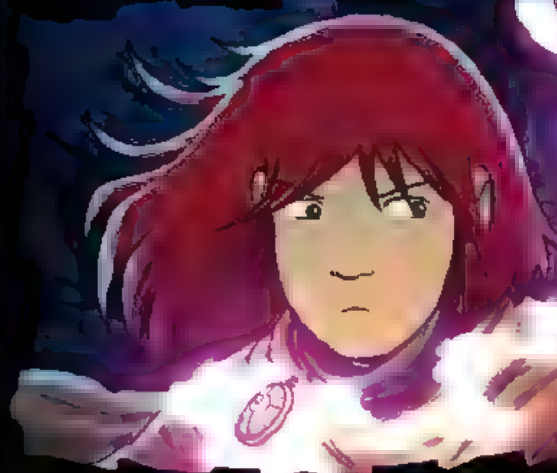


HOW CAN I
BELIEVE ANYTHING
YOU SAY?

WHAT DO I HAVE
TO GAIN IF WHAT I
SAY ISN'T TRUE?



USE THE LIGHT
FROM YOUR STONE
AND STAFF, AND
SEE FOR YOURSELF.



USE YOUR
POWER TO
LIGHT YOUR
PATH.





PING!!

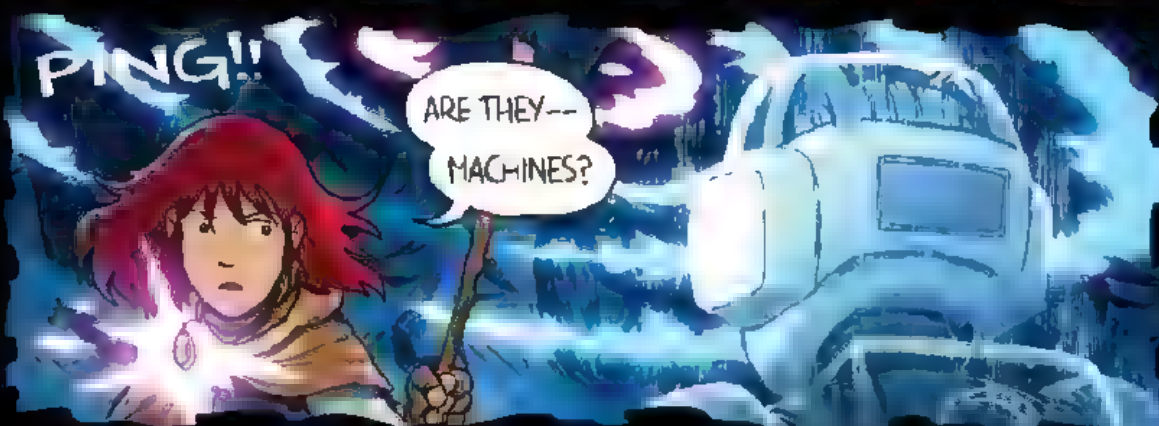
GPINING! PINN

THESE
SHADOWS--

ARE YOUR
MASTERS STANDING
IN FRONT OF ME?

PINGPINGPING PINGPING



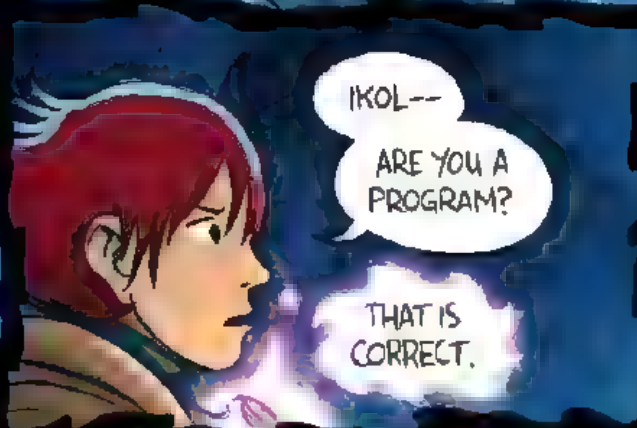


PING!!

ARE THEY--
MACHINES?



YES.



IKOL--

ARE YOU A
PROGRAM?

THAT IS
CORRECT.

I HAVE TAKEN MY
NAME FROM THE
PLACE I WAS BORN.
THE INTELLIGENT
KINEMATIC OPERATIONS
LABORATORY, ALSO
KNOWN AS IKOL.



YOU AND THE
MASTERS ARE NOT
FROM TYPHON,
ARE YOU?

NO.

WE ARE
WE ARE LIKE YOU--
NOT.



PINNGG!!

PINNGG!!


WE ARE
FROM
EARTH.




WERE YOU
CREATED BY
SILAS CHARNON?



YES.

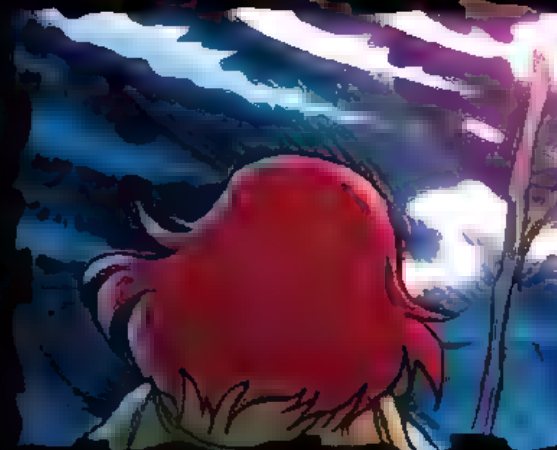


YOU HAVE TOLD
ME REPEATEDLY
TO FIND MY
FAMILY—



BUT THE CLOSEST
THING I HAVE TO A
FAMILY—

IS YOU.



THE PLANET
THEY NEED HELP
WITH—


IT'S EARTH,
ISN'T IT?



YES.

YOU HAVE
BEEN ON A LONG
JOURNEY TO
UNDERSTANDING
YOUR POWER.

IT IS NOW
TIME FOR YOU
TO GO HOME.



WE HAVE TO LEAVE THESE
PLANETS IN BETTER SHAPE
THAN WE FOUND THEM.

WE DON'T LEAVE
UNTIL WE DO THAT.

TIME IS OF
THE ESSENCE,
EMILY.

BUT IF WE DON'T
STOP THE CONFLICT
HERE, IT WILL FIND
ITS WAY BACK TO
EARTH.

I KNOW.

PING!!

I AM GOING
TO NEED YOUR
MASTERS' HELP.

I DON'T KNOW
HOW MANY OF YOU
ARE OUT THERE--

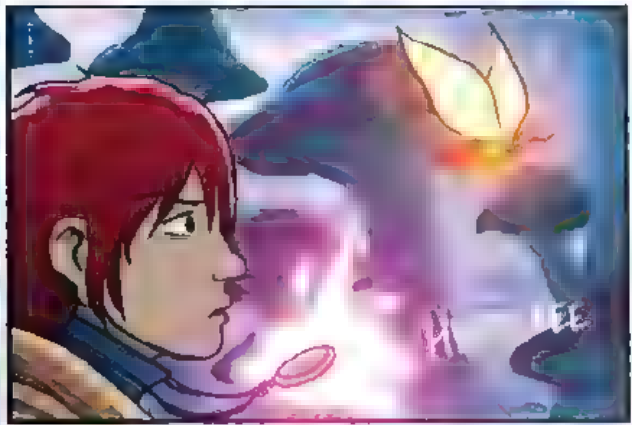
BUT I NEED
YOU TO GO FIND
MY FAMILY AND
LET THEM KNOW
WHERE I AM.

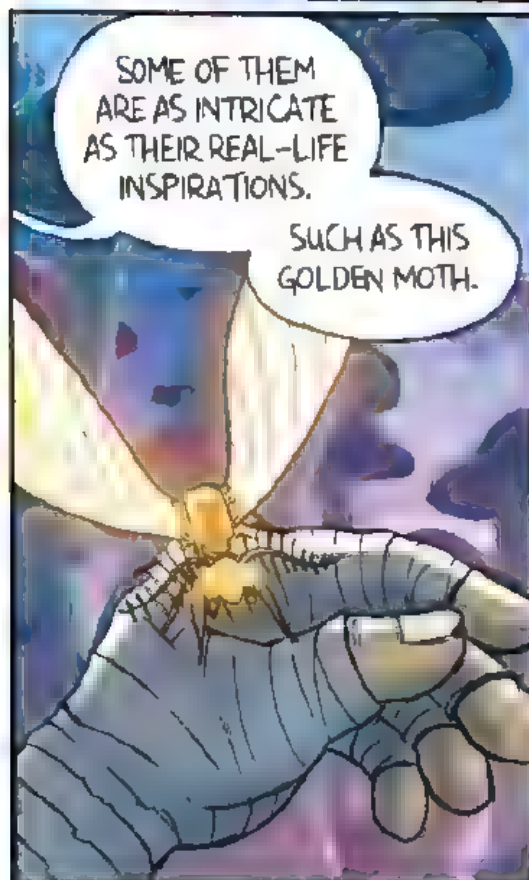
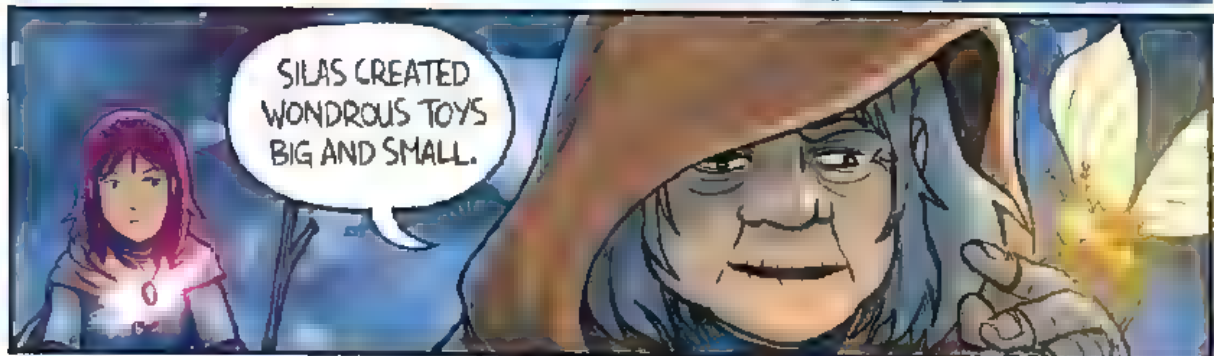
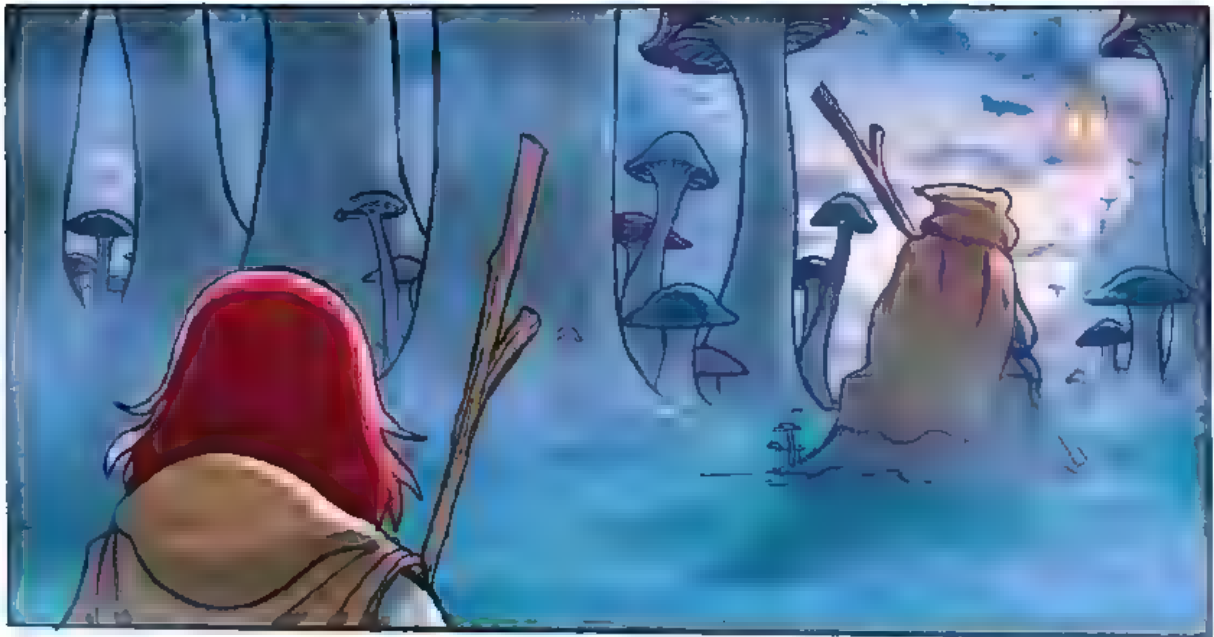
BRING
US BACK
TOGETHER.

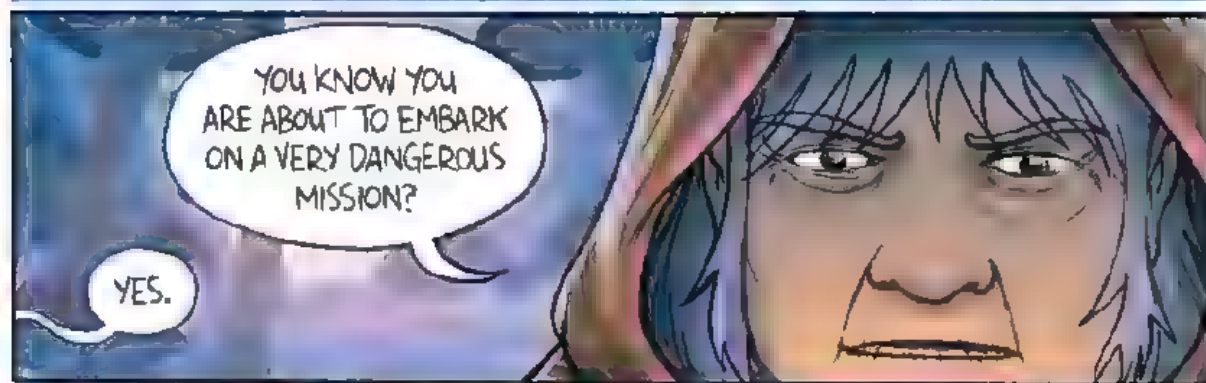
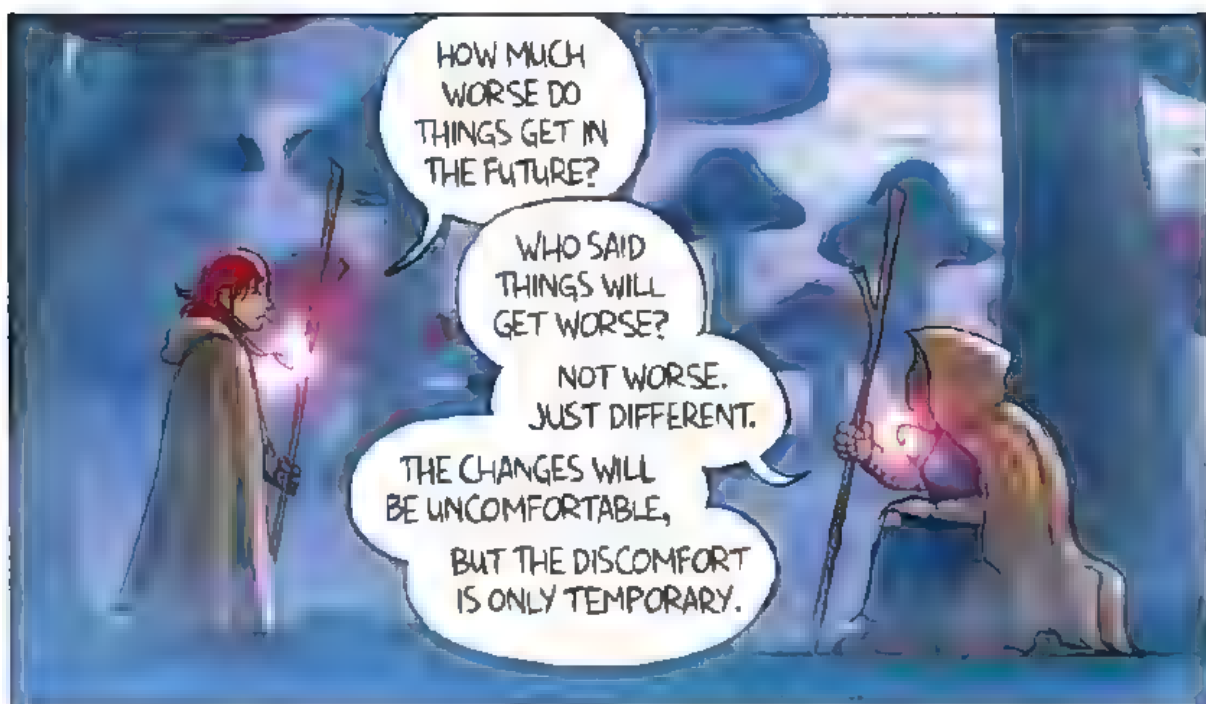
AND TAKE
US TO THE
SHADOWS.

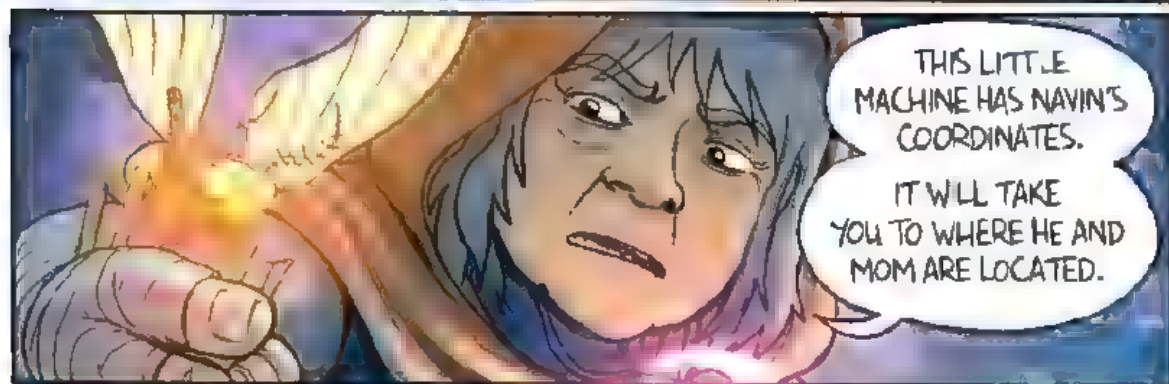


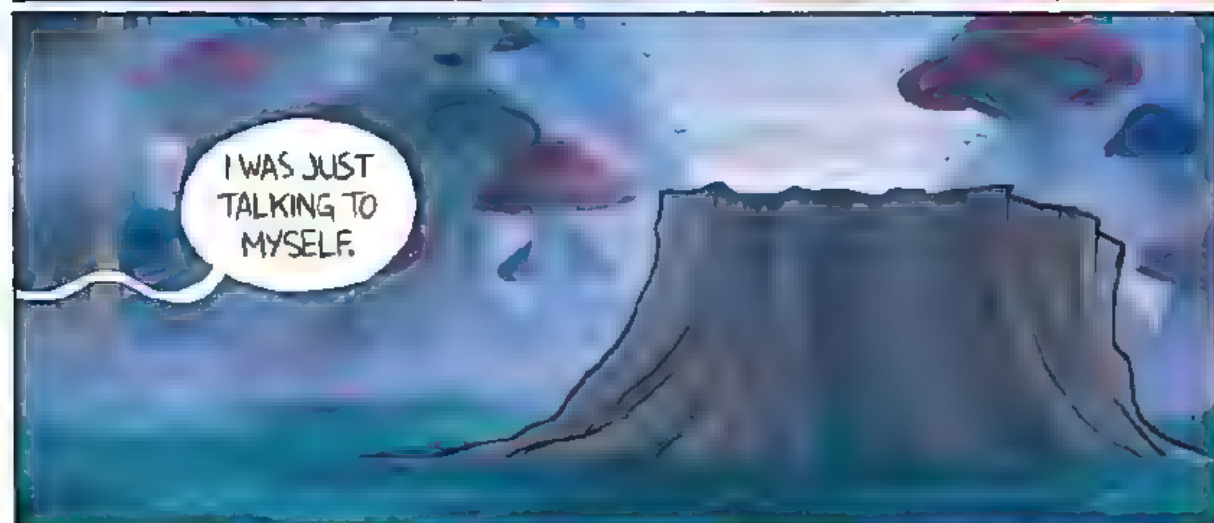
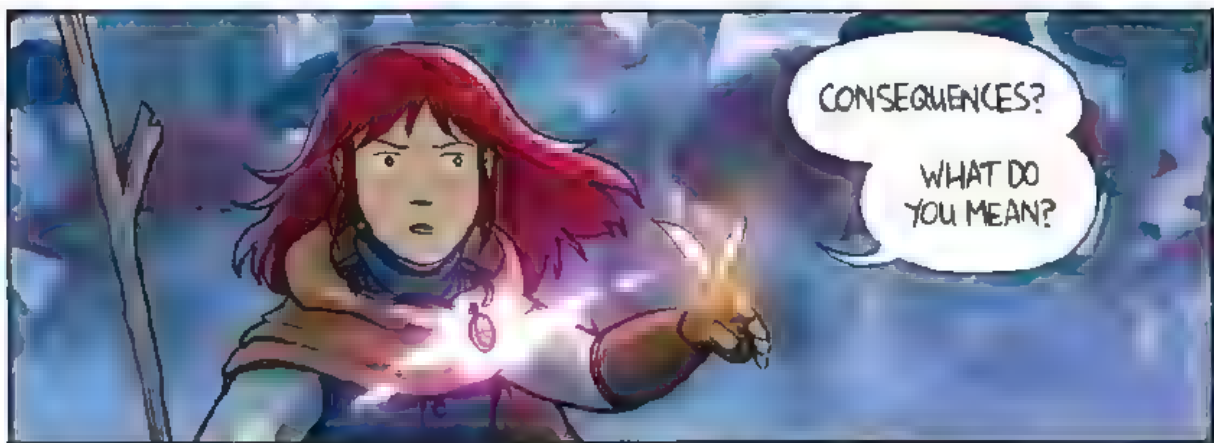


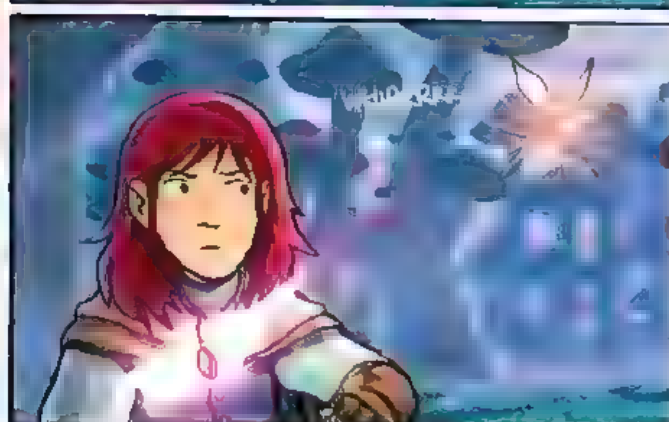
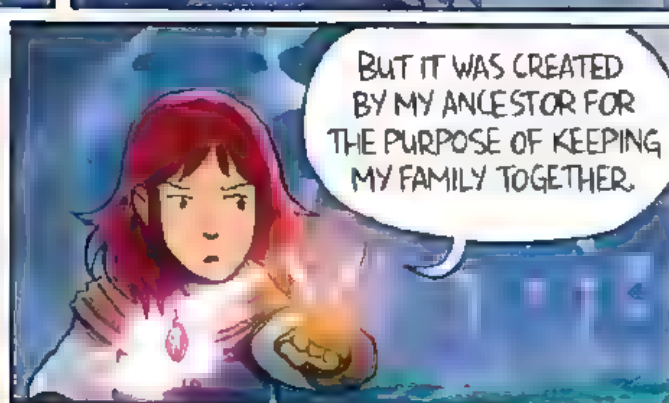
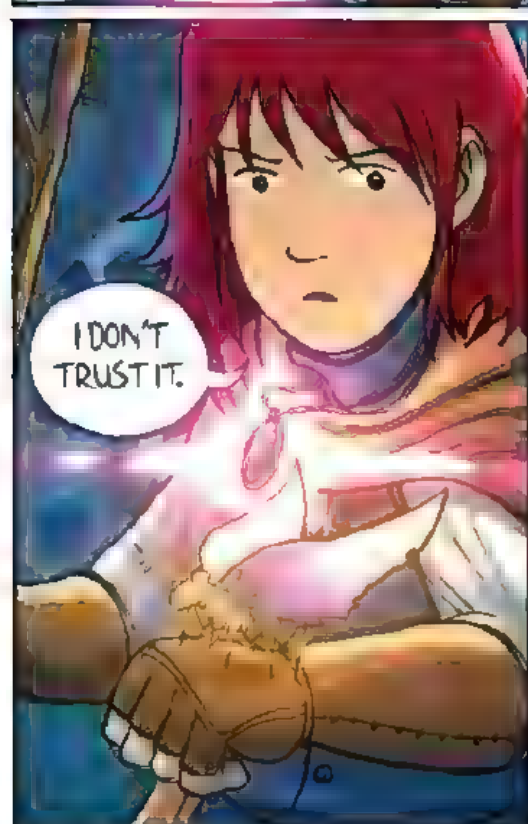
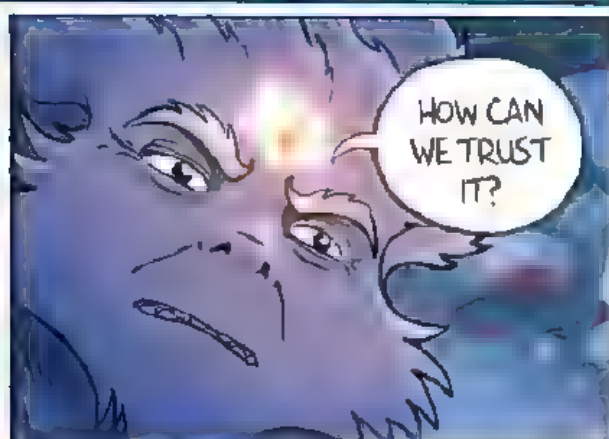
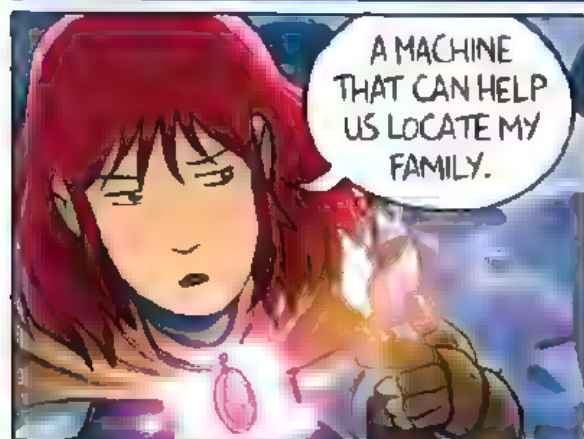


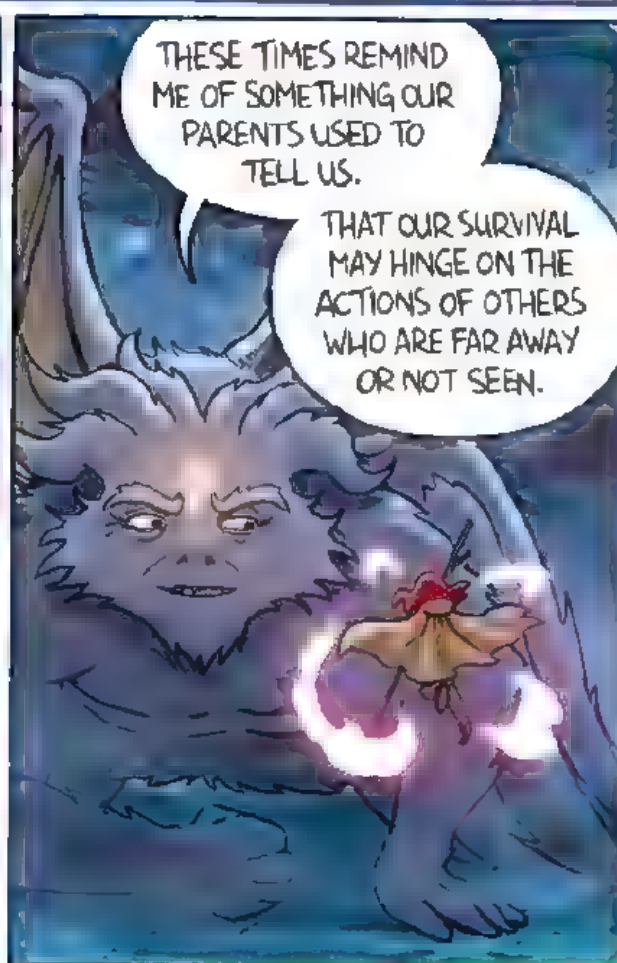
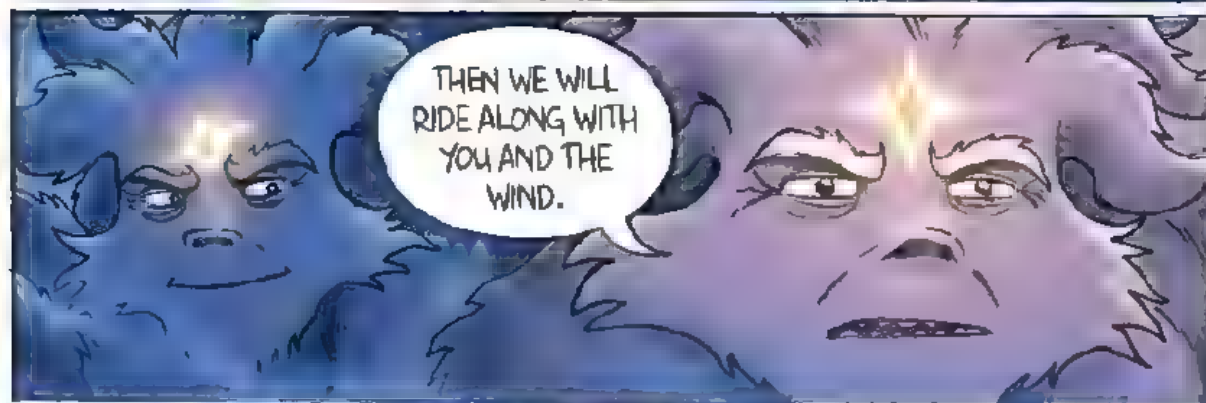


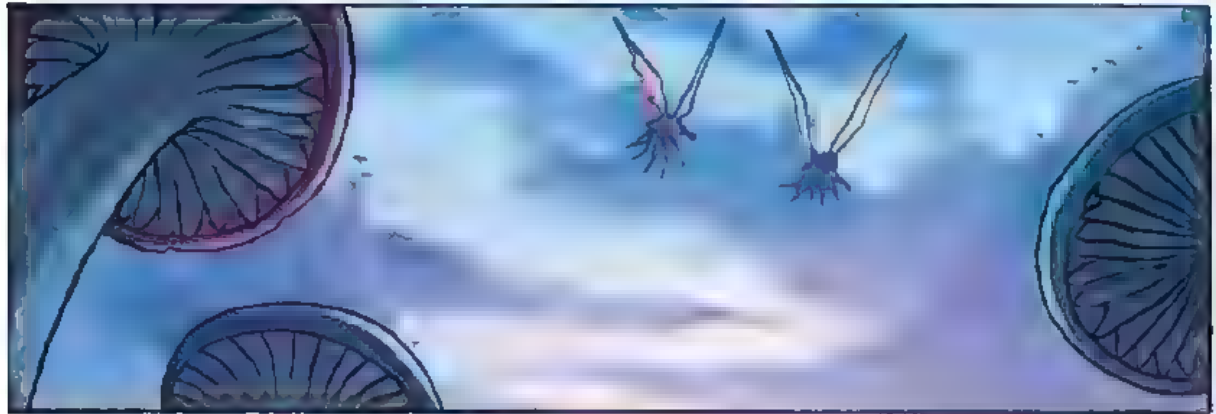




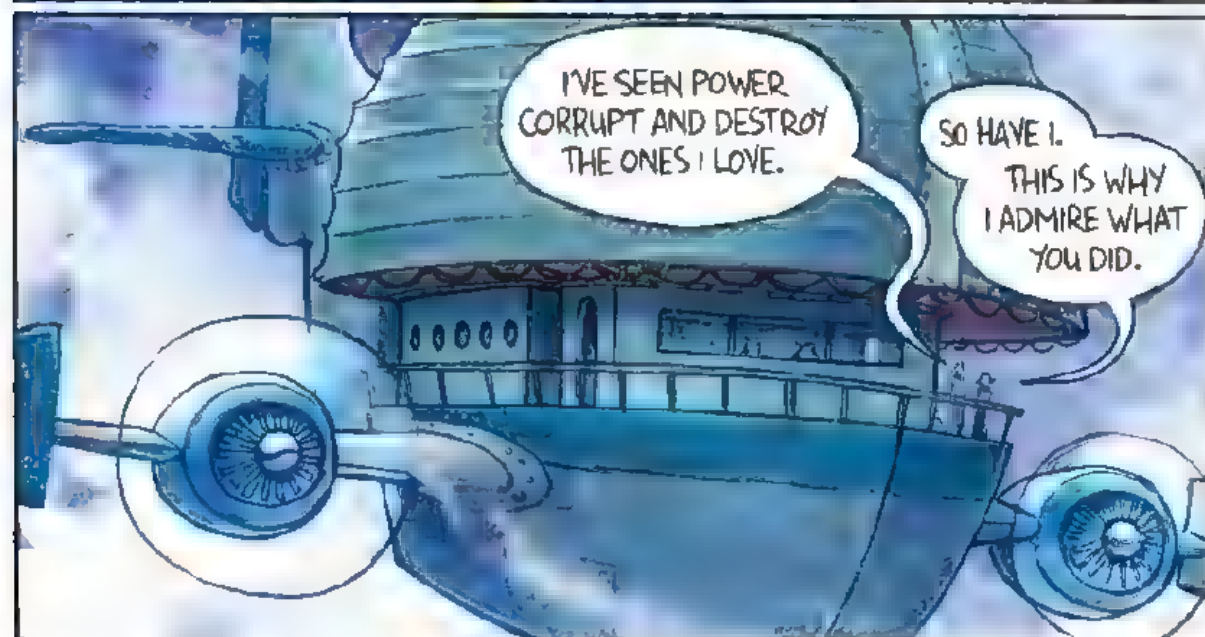


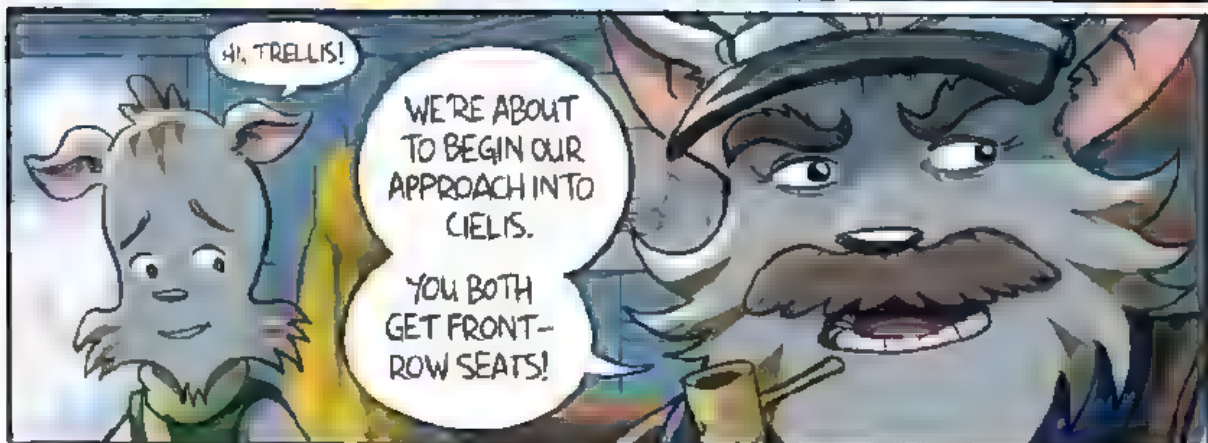






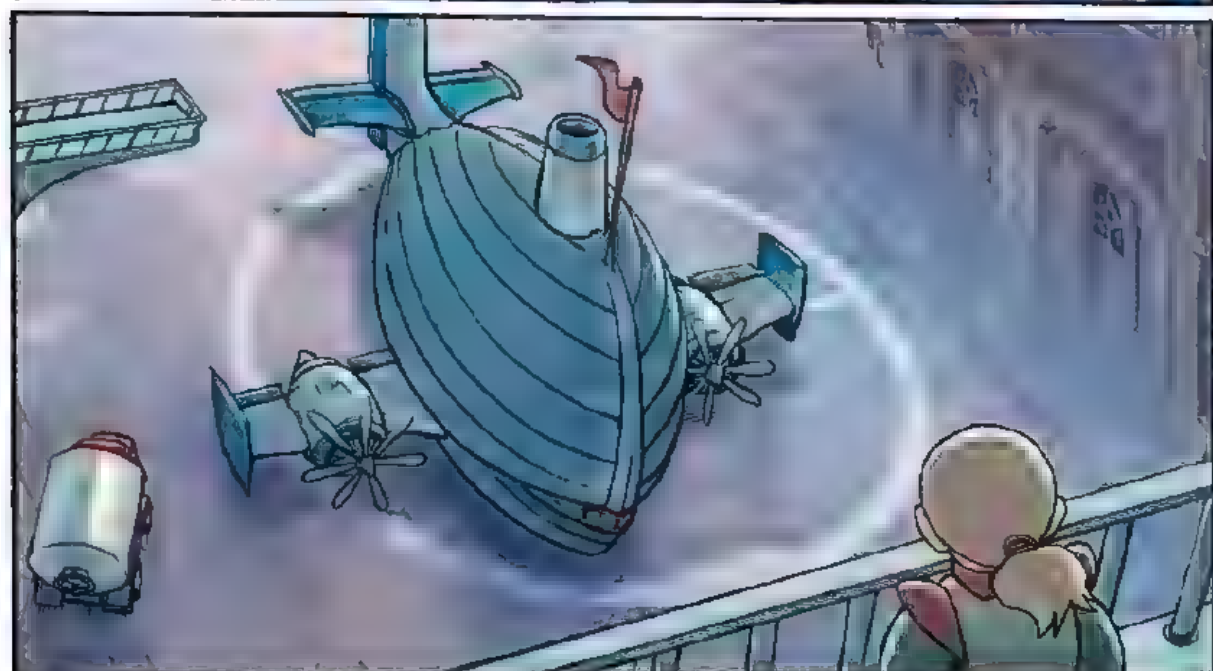
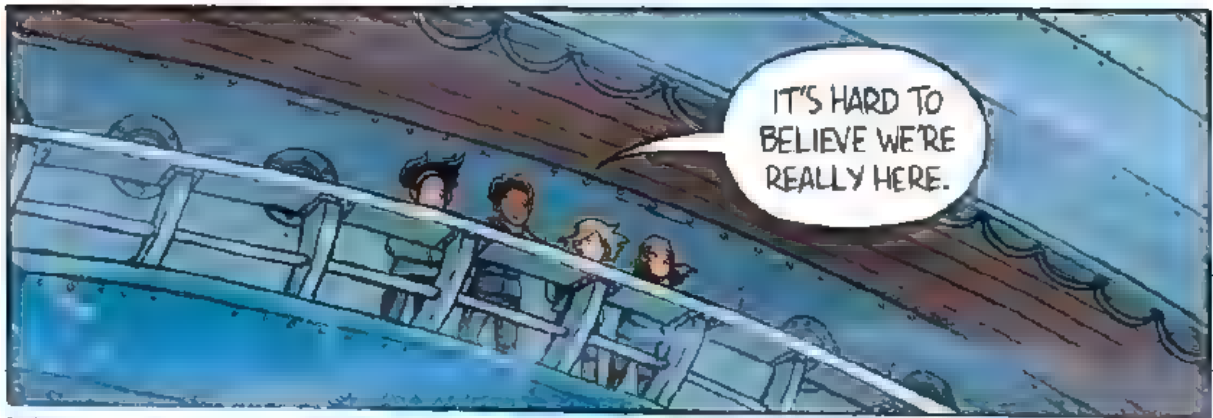


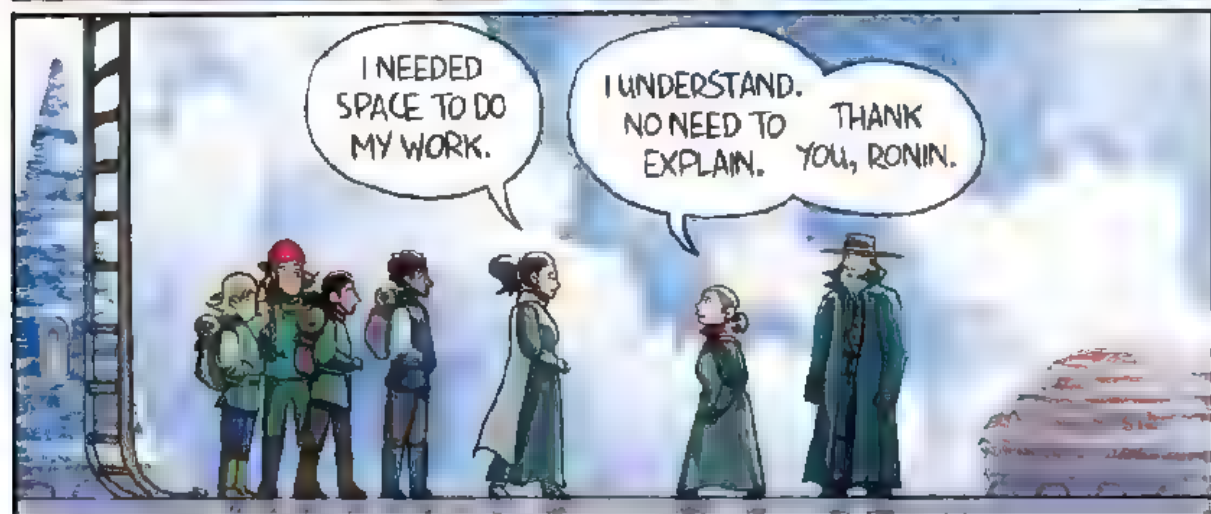
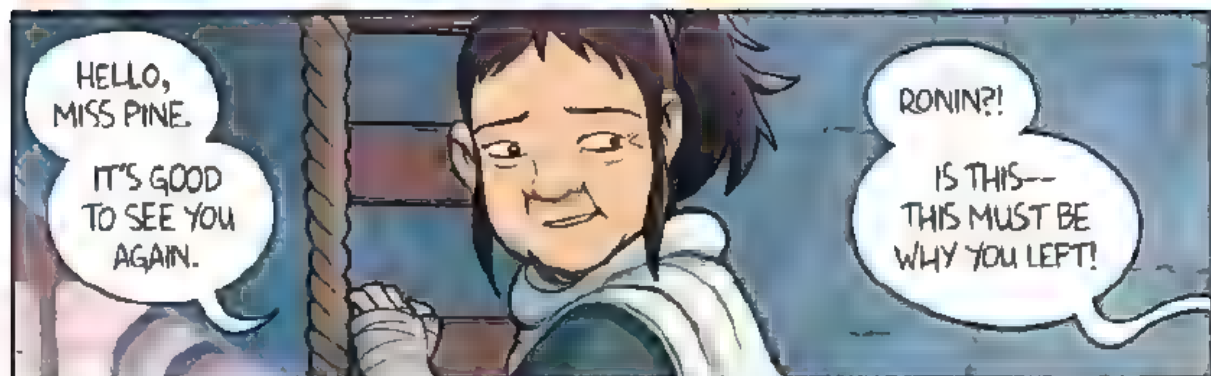




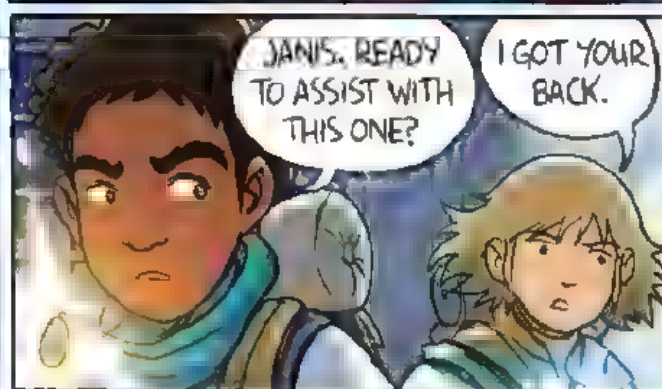


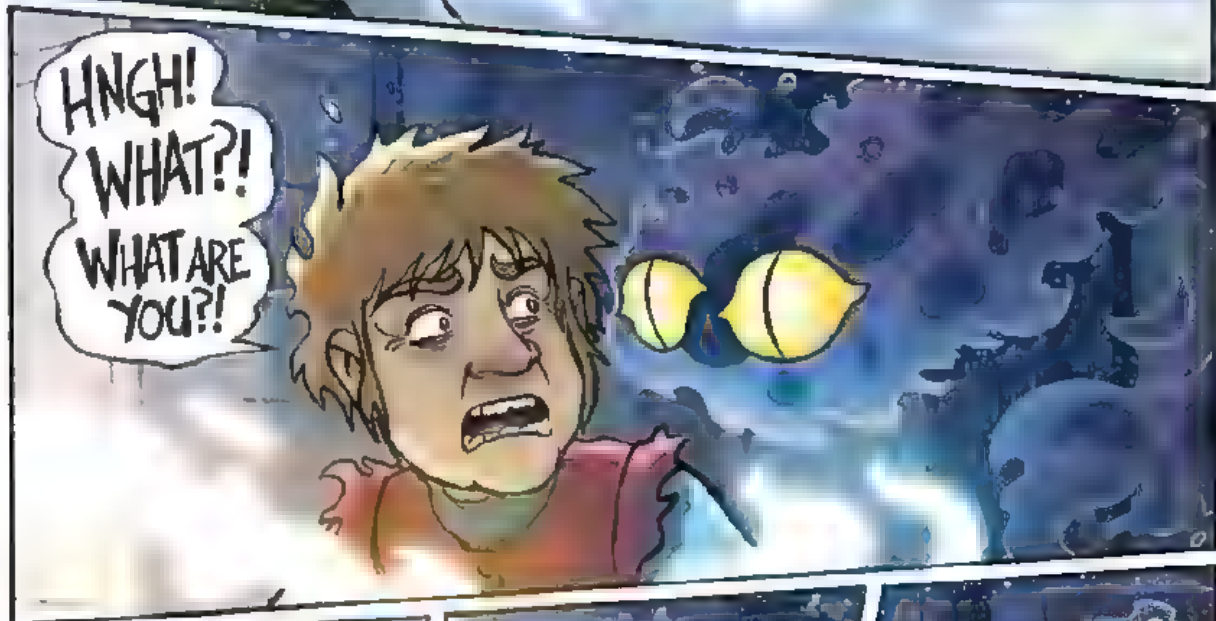
JUST LET ME
ENJOY THIS FINAL,
FLEETING MOMENT
OF ADVENTURE.

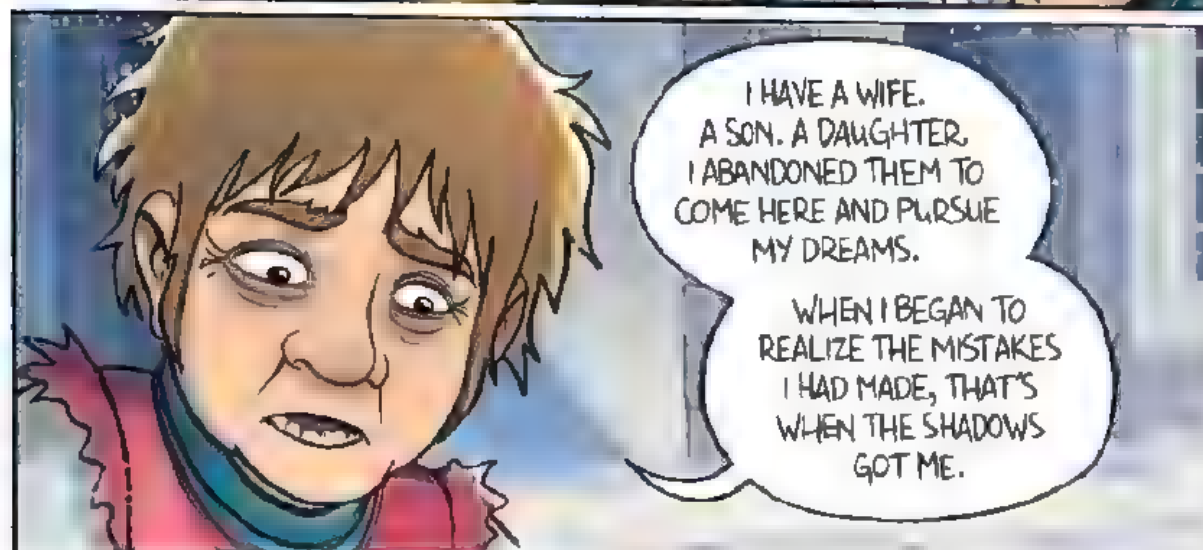
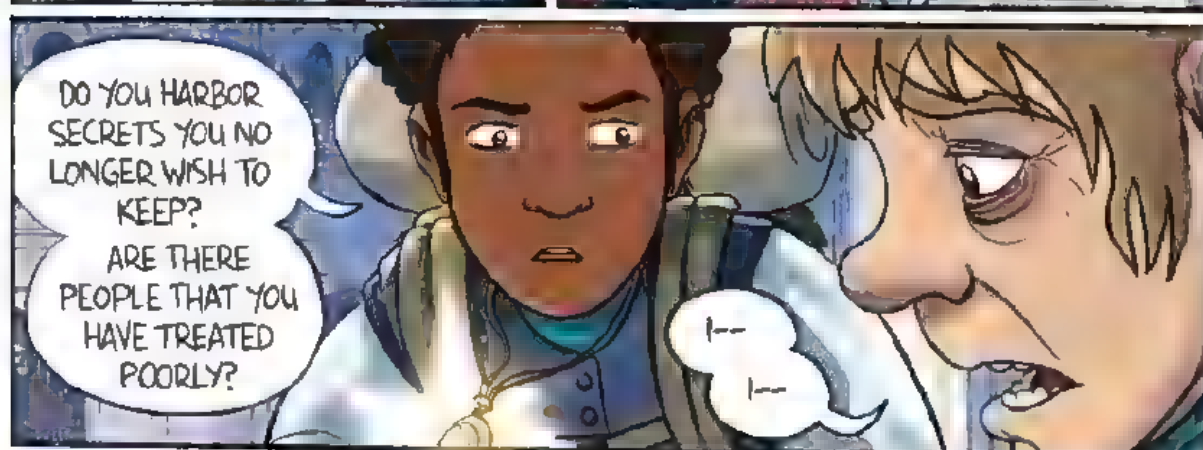
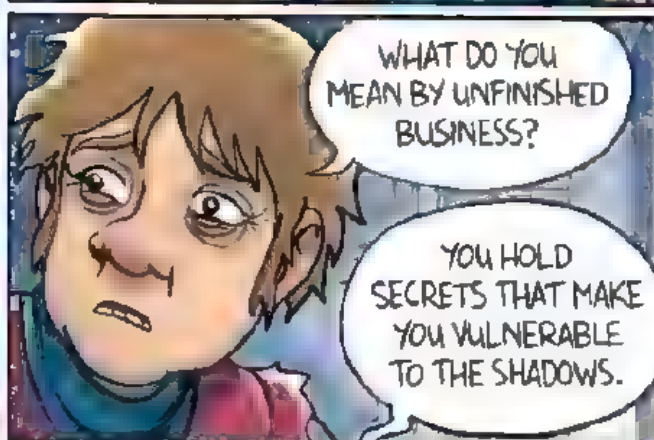


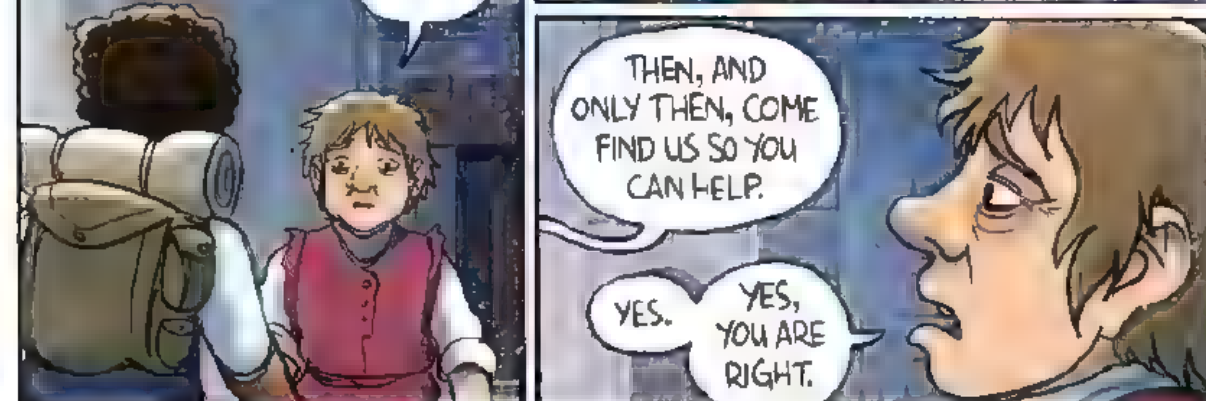
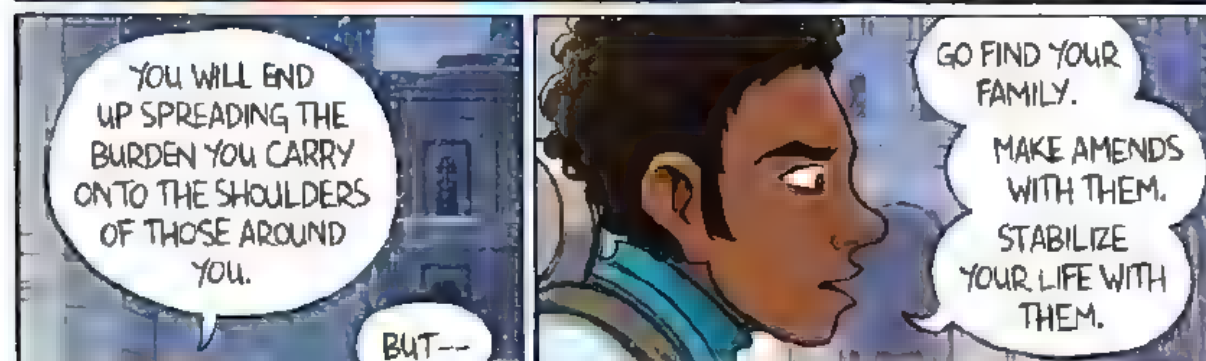
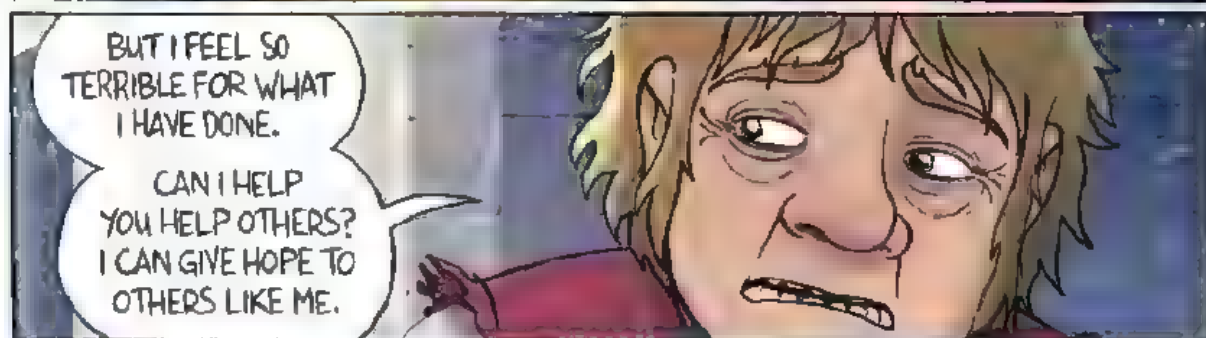
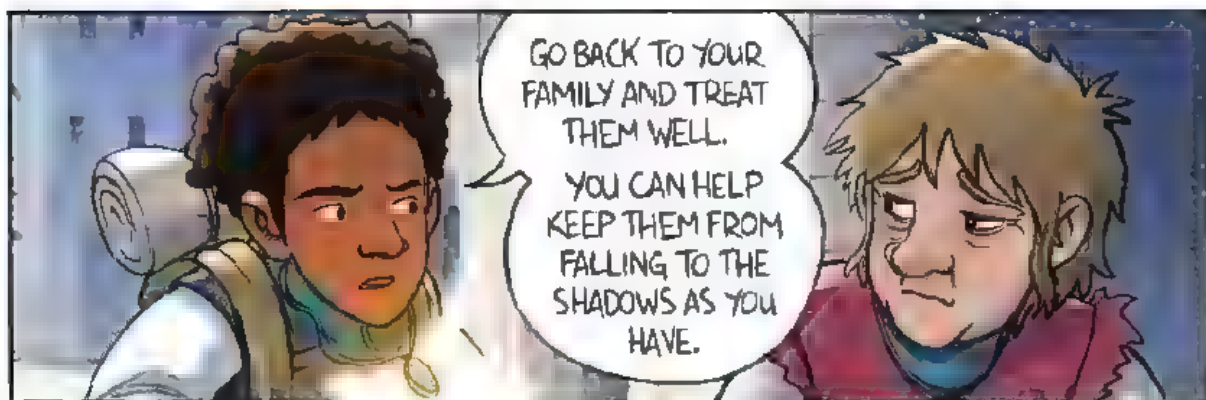


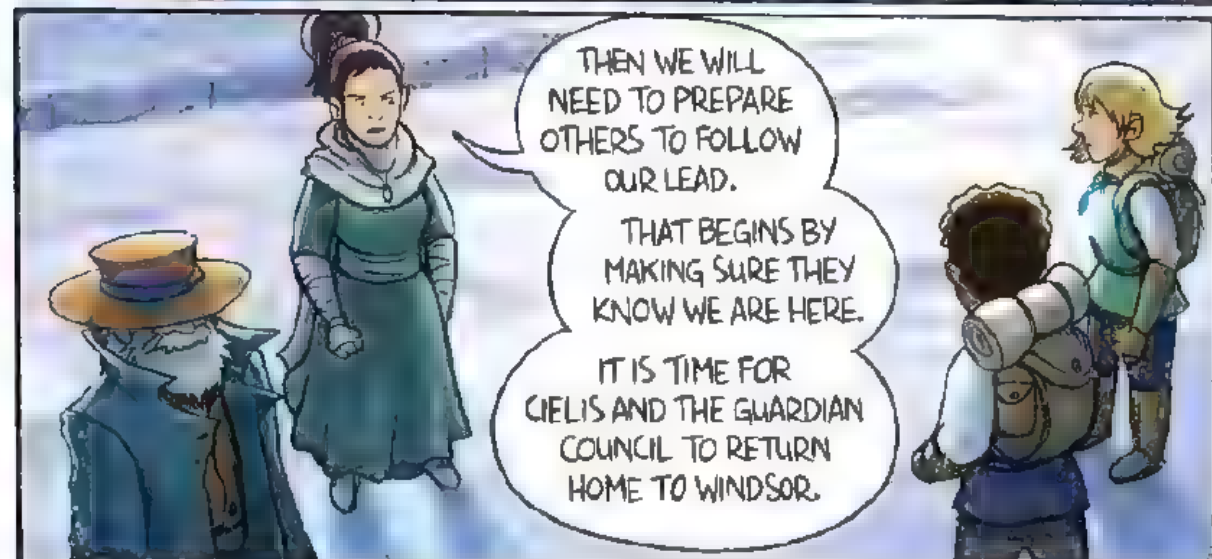
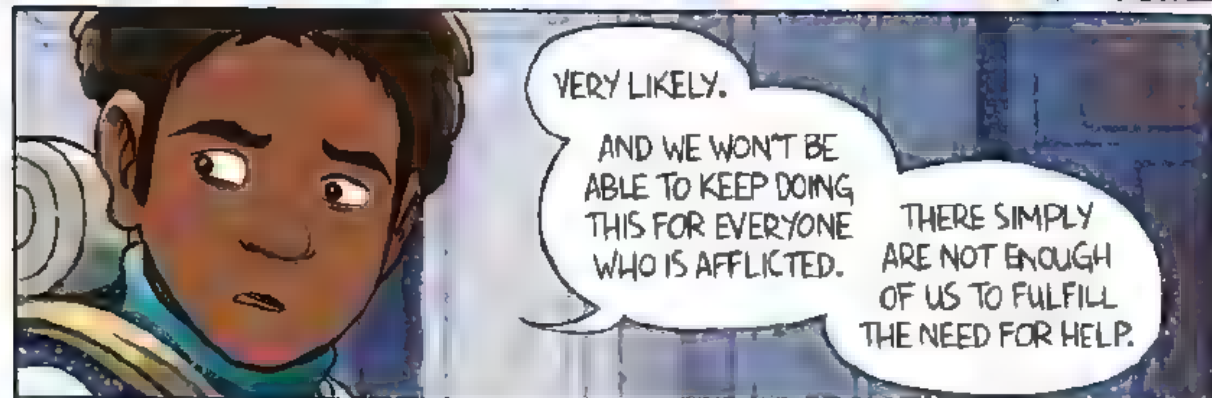
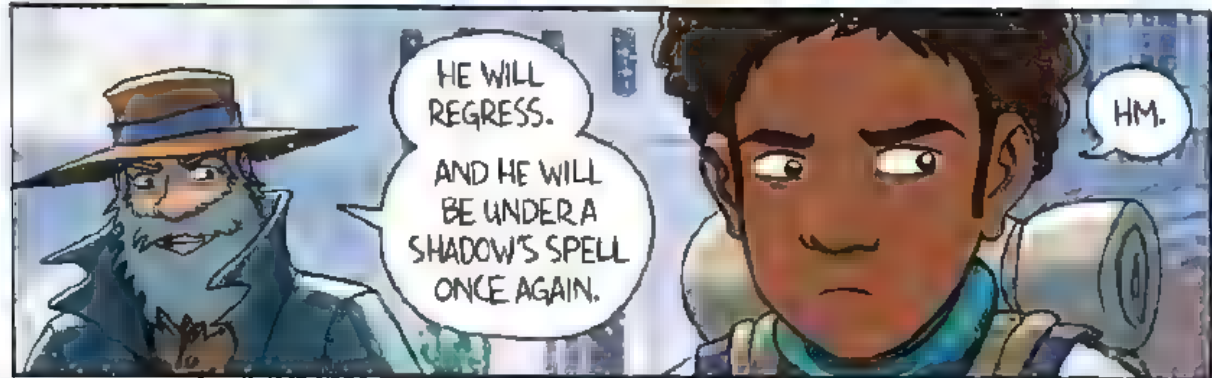


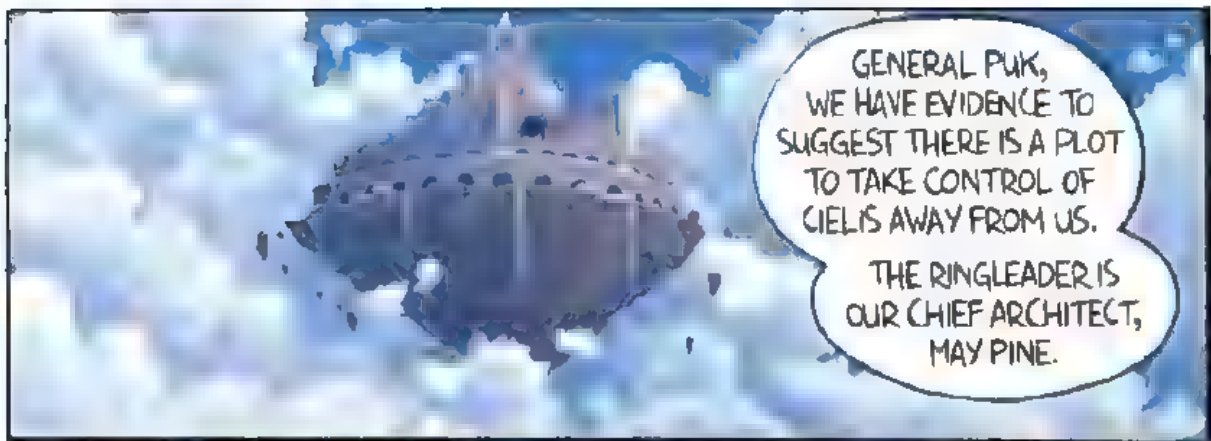






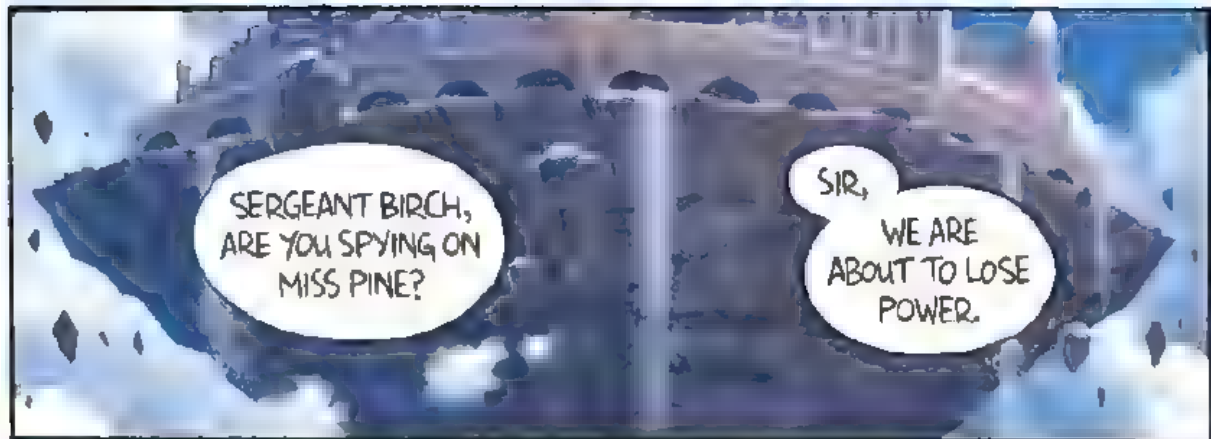






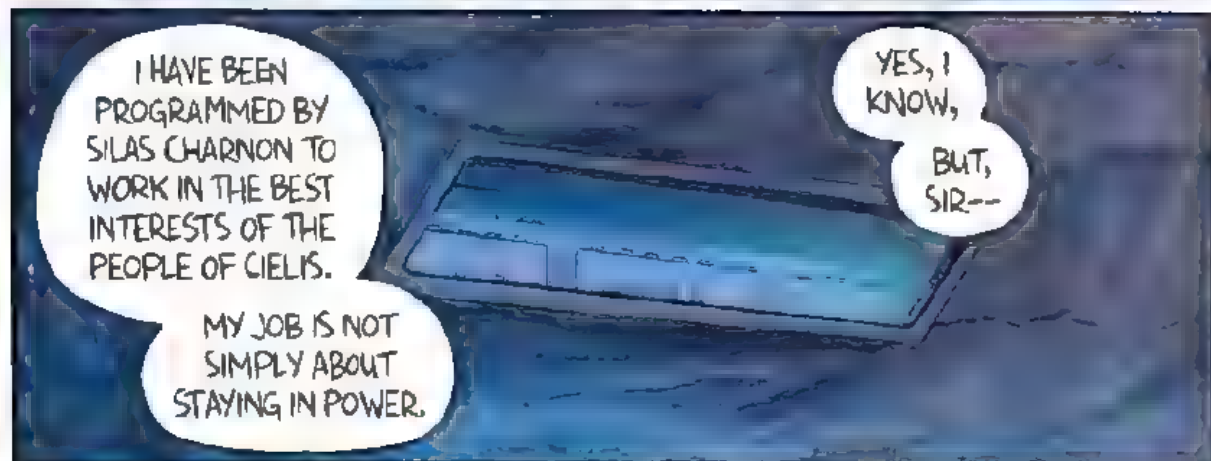
GENERAL PUK,
WE HAVE EVIDENCE TO
SUGGEST THERE IS A PLOT
TO TAKE CONTROL OF
CIEL'S AWAY FROM US.

THE RINGLEADER IS
OUR CHIEF ARCHITECT,
MAY PINE.



SERGEANT BIRCH,
ARE YOU SPYING ON
MISS PINE?

SIR,
WE ARE
ABOUT TO LOSE
POWER.



I HAVE BEEN
PROGRAMMED BY
SILAS CHARNON TO
WORK IN THE BEST
INTERESTS OF THE
PEOPLE OF CIEL'S.

MY JOB IS NOT
SIMPLY ABOUT
STAYING IN POWER.

YES, I
KNOW,
BUT,
SIR--



PLEASE
TELL EVERYONE
TO PREPARE TO GIVE
CONTROL BACK TO THE
GUARDIAN COUNCIL.

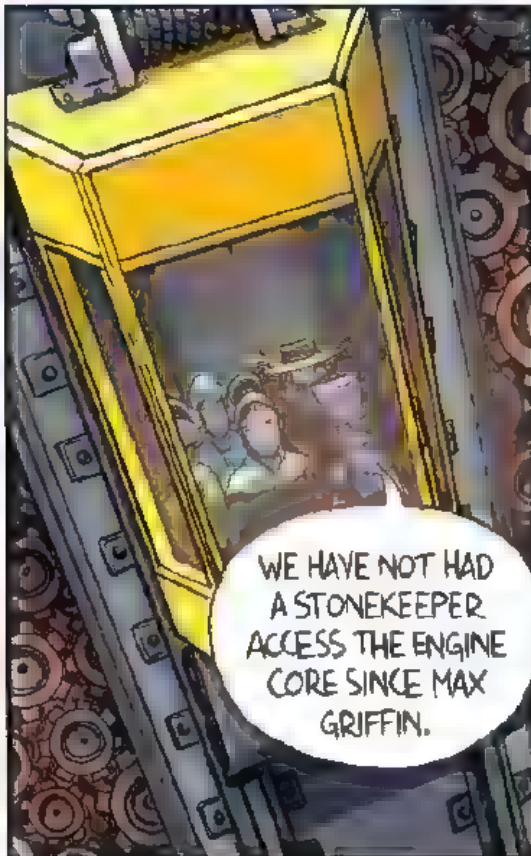
SIR, NO!



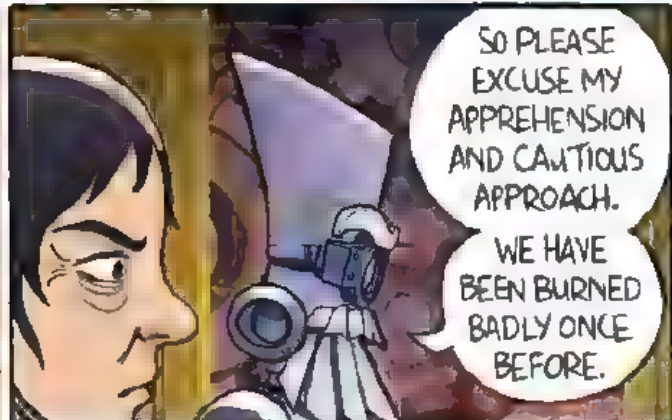


WE NEED ACCESS
TO THE ENGINE
CORE BENEATH
CIELIS.

PLEASE
TAKE US
THERE.

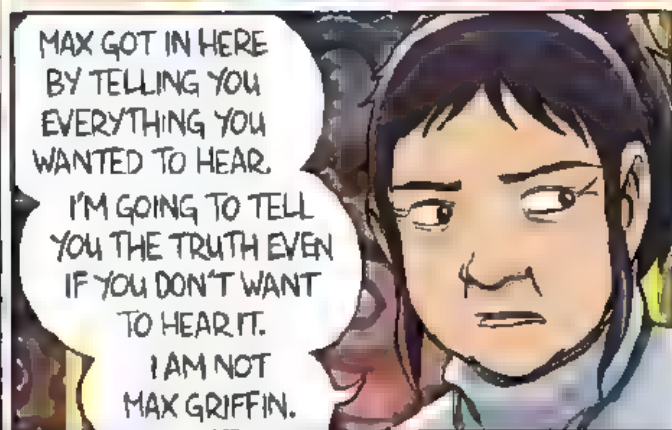


WE HAVE NOT HAD
A STONEKEEPER
ACCESS THE ENGINE
CORE SINCE MAX
GRIFFIN.



SO PLEASE
EXCUSE MY
APPREHENSION
AND CAUTIOUS
APPROACH.

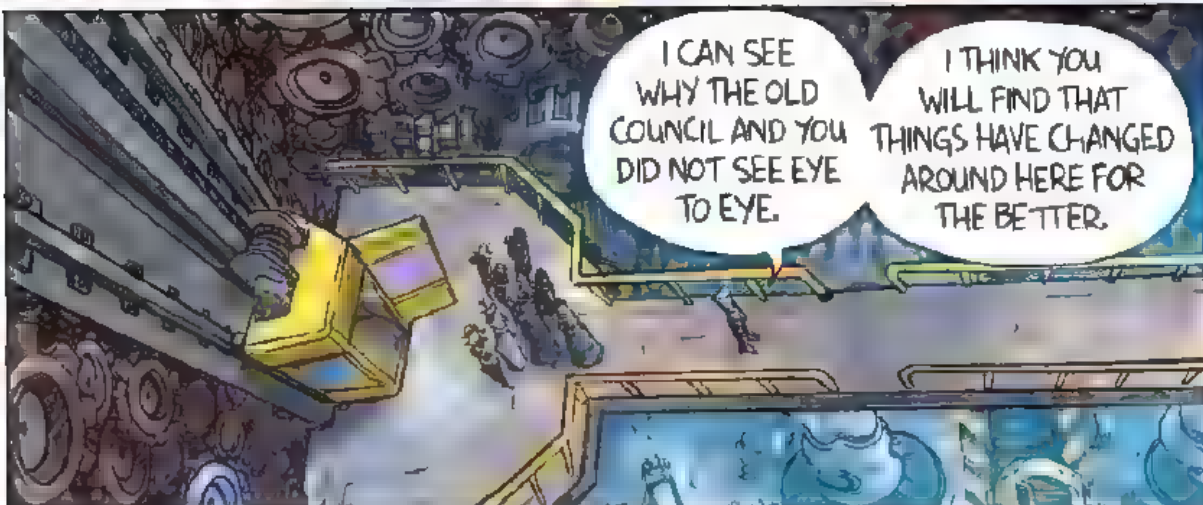
WE HAVE
BEEN BURNED
BADLY ONCE
BEFORE.



MAX GOT IN HERE
BY TELLING YOU
EVERYTHING YOU
WANTED TO HEAR.

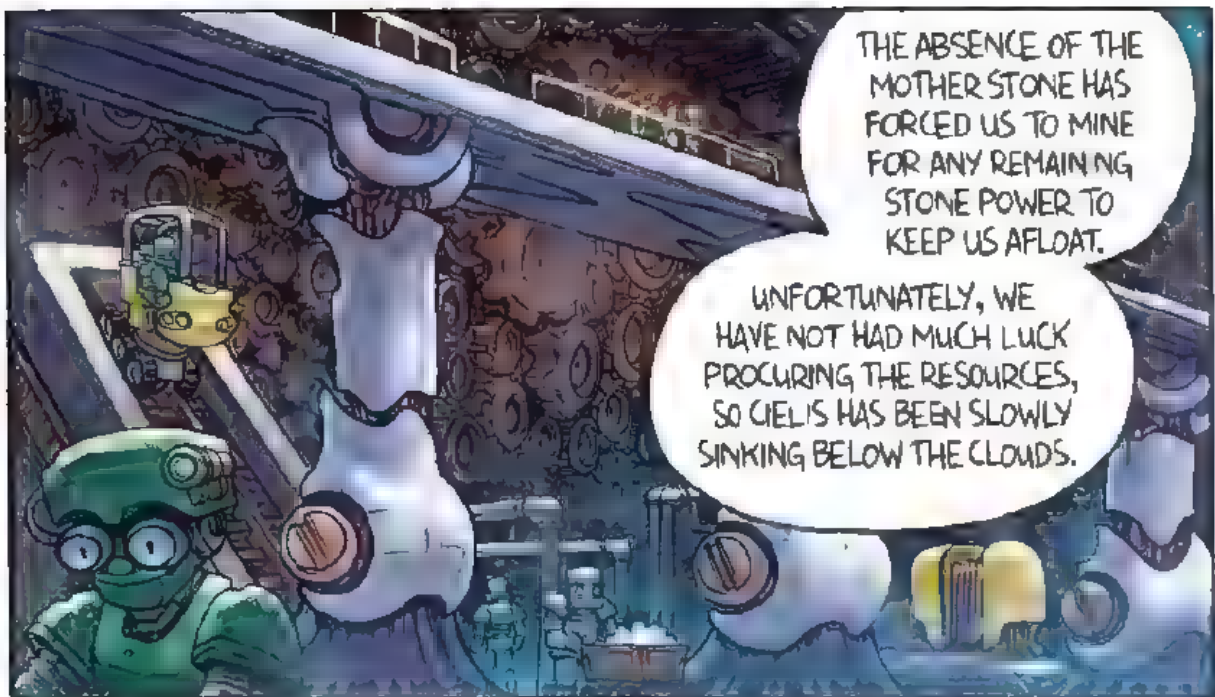
I'M GOING TO TELL
YOU THE TRUTH EVEN
IF YOU DON'T WANT
TO HEAR IT.

I AM NOT
MAX GRIFFIN.



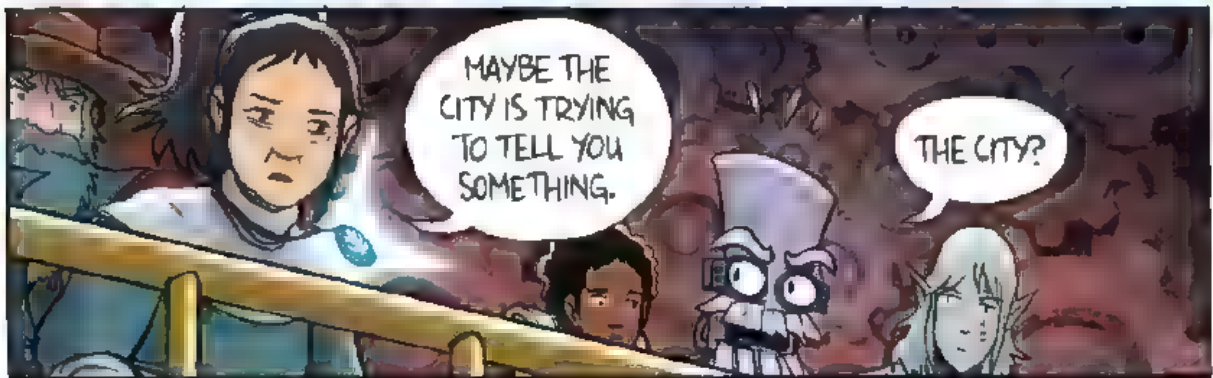
I CAN SEE
WHY THE OLD
COUNCIL AND YOU
DID NOT SEE EYE
TO EYE.

I THINK YOU
WILL FIND THAT
THINGS HAVE CHANGED
AROUND HERE FOR
THE BETTER.



THE ABSENCE OF THE MOTHER STONE HAS FORCED US TO MINE FOR ANY REMAINING STONE POWER TO KEEP US AFLOAT.

UNFORTUNATELY, WE HAVE NOT HAD MUCH LUCK PROCURING THE RESOURCES, SO CIEL'S HAS BEEN SLOWLY SINKING BELOW THE CLOUDS.



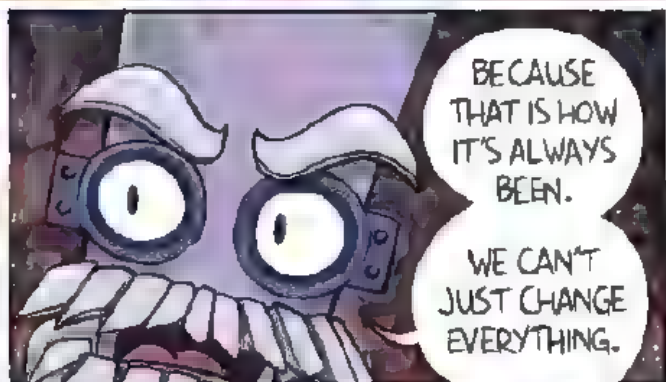
MAYBE THE CITY IS TRYING TO TELL YOU SOMETHING.

THE CITY?



IT SEEMS TO WANT TO RETURN TO THE GROUND.

WHY FORCE IT TO REMAIN IN THE CLOUDS?



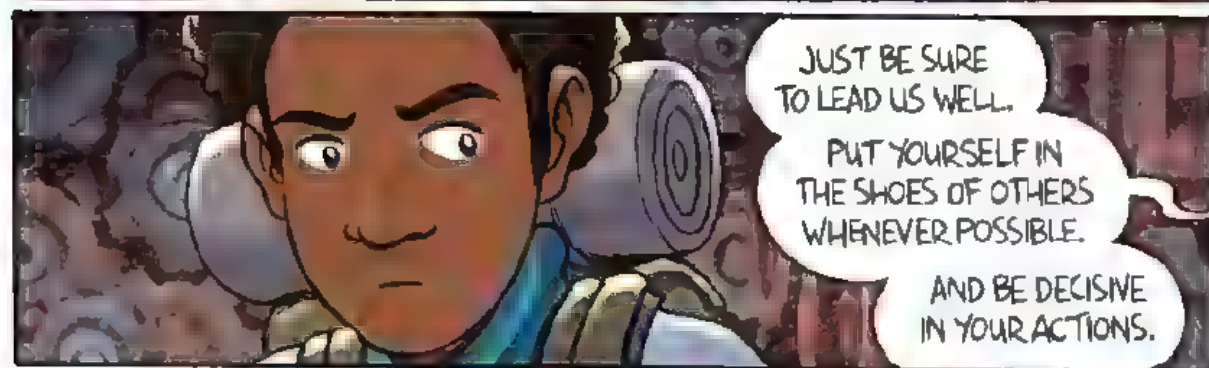
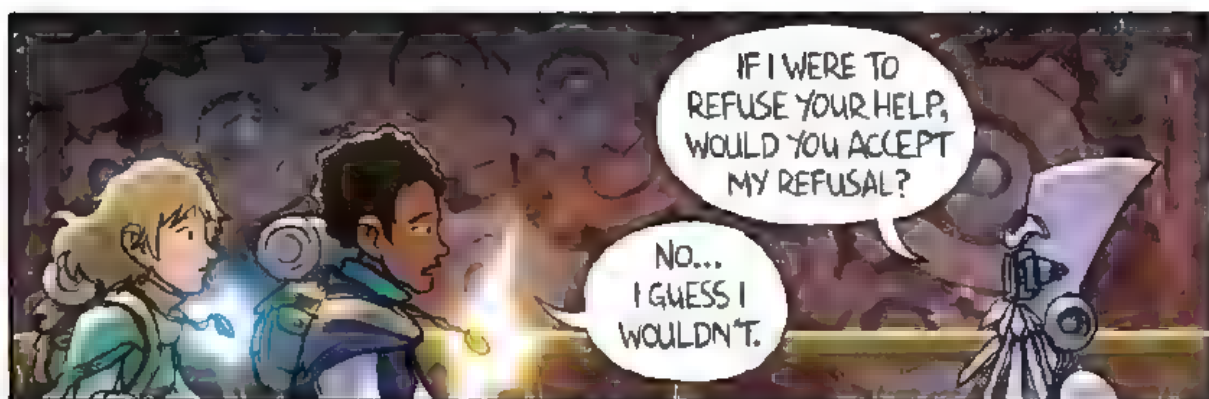
BECAUSE THAT IS HOW IT'S ALWAYS BEEN.

WE CAN'T JUST CHANGE EVERYTHING.

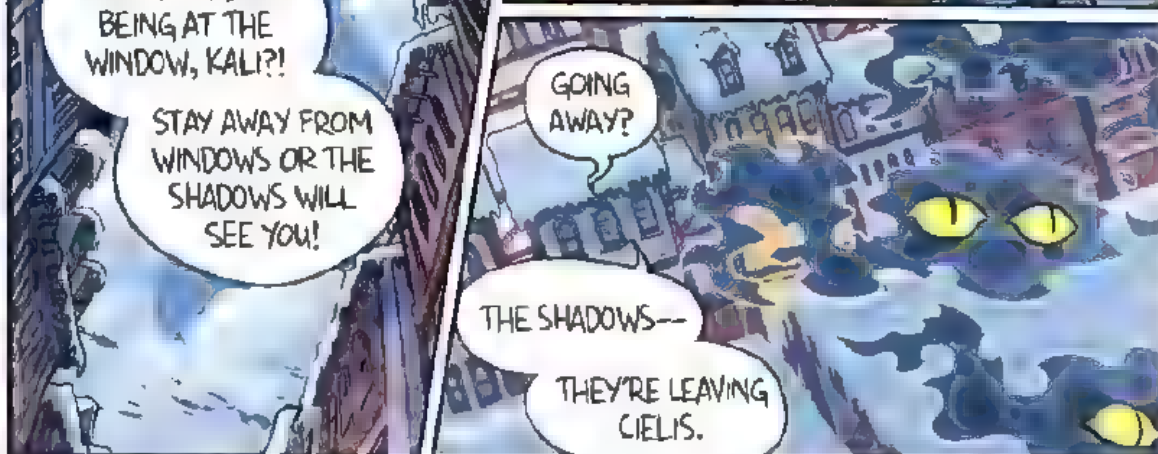
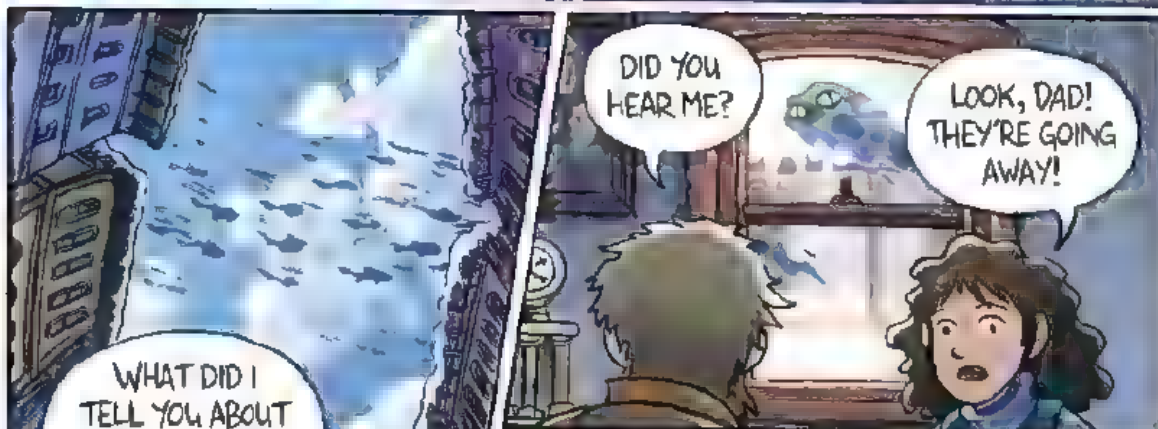
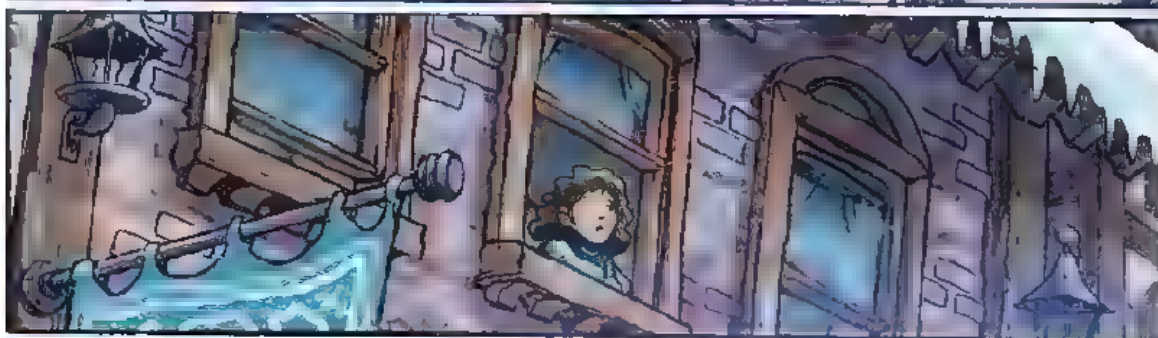
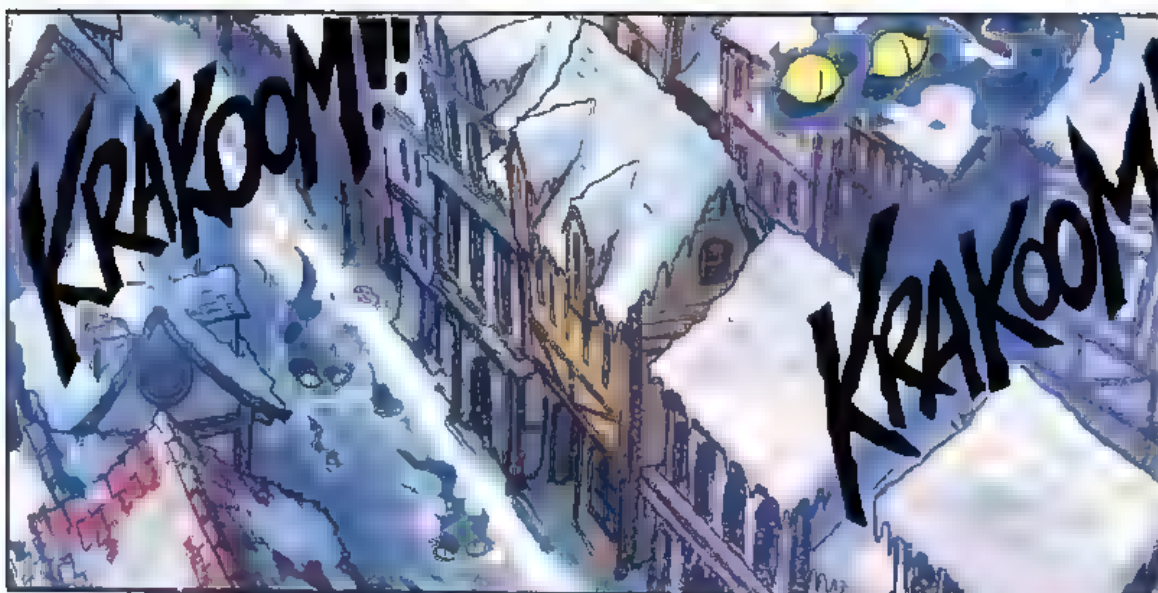


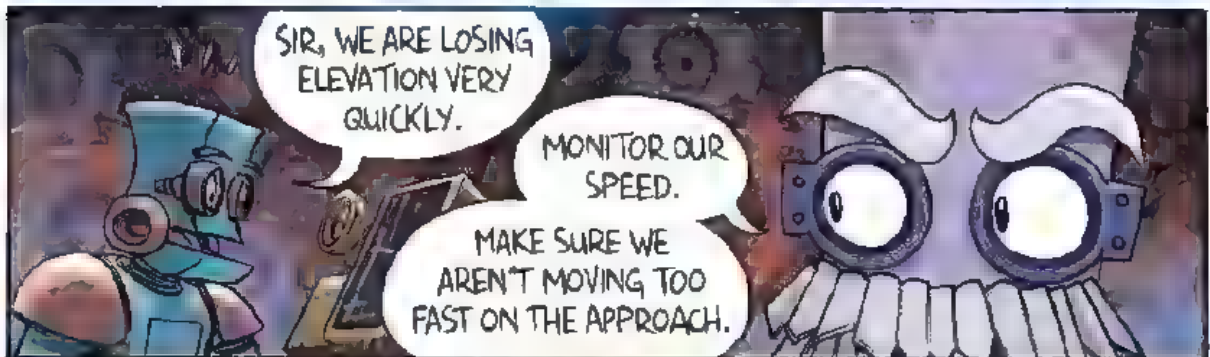
WHY NOT?

IF YOU'RE AFRAID OF CHANGING THINGS, LET US HELP.







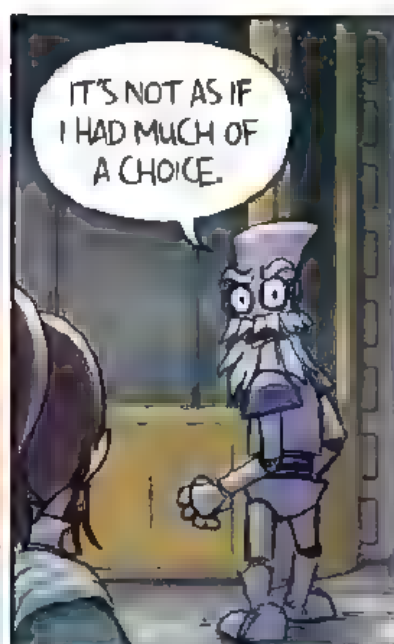




THEY ARE
GOOD STUDENTS.
YOU TAUGHT
THEM WELL.



THANK YOU
FOR ACCEPTING
THEM. AND FOR
ACCEPTING
ME.



IT'S NOT AS IF
I HAD MUCH OF
A CHOICE.



AS SOON AS
THEY FEEL THEY
NO LONGER NEED
US, THEY WILL BE
ADVERSARIES
AGAIN.

HOW DID
YOU DEAL
WITH IT?

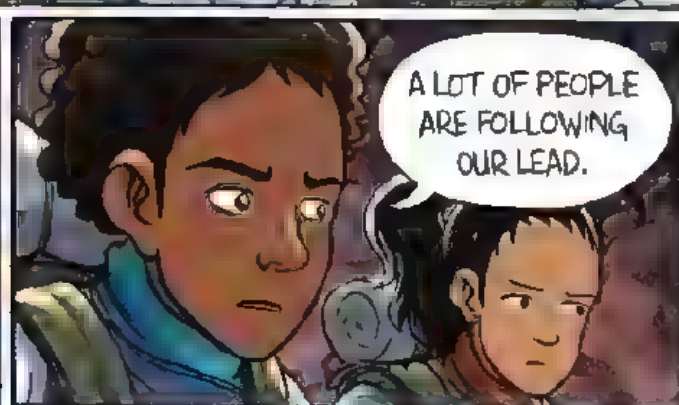


I WENT AWAY
AND LIVED ON A
REMOTE ISLAND.

UNTIL SILAS'S TOYS
FOUND A WAY TO
BRING ME BACK.

I DON'T
BELIEVE THIS IS
A RESPONSIBILITY
WE CAN JUST WALK
AWAY FROM.

I RECOMMEND
MAKING THE BEST
OF IT.

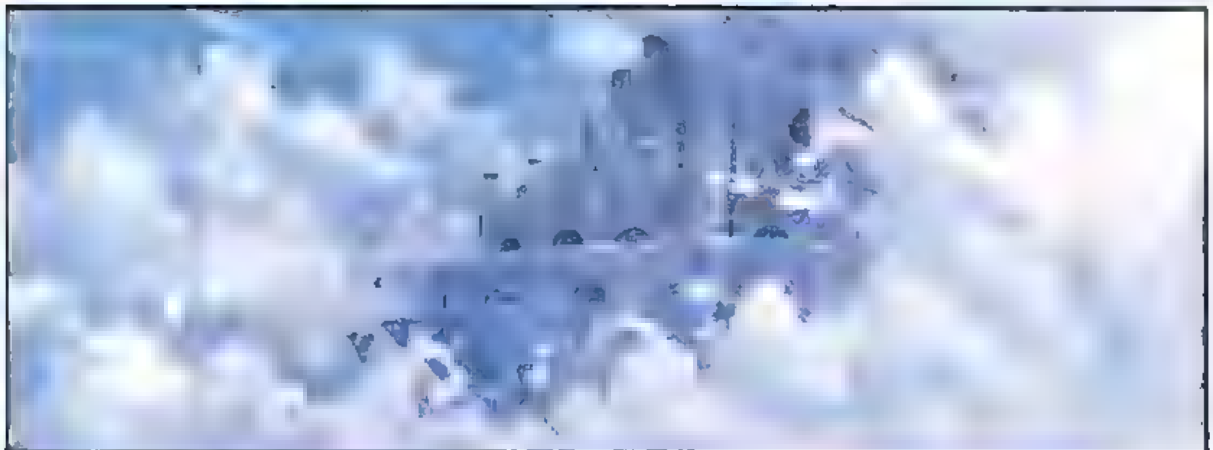
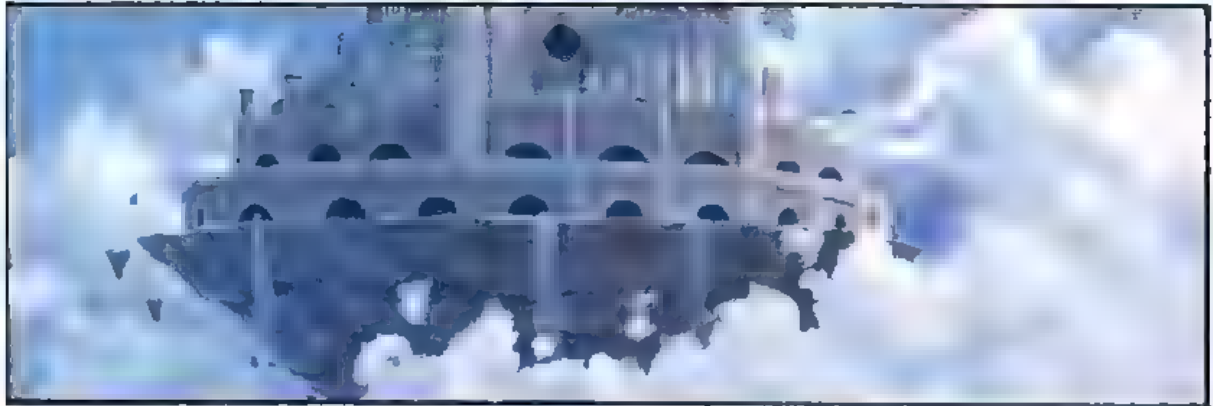
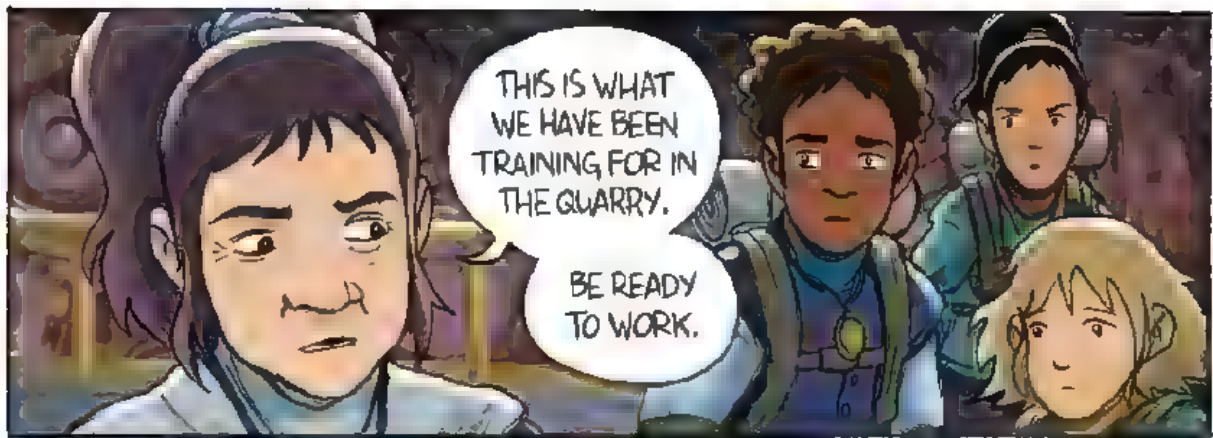


A LOT OF PEOPLE
ARE FOLLOWING
OUR LEAD.

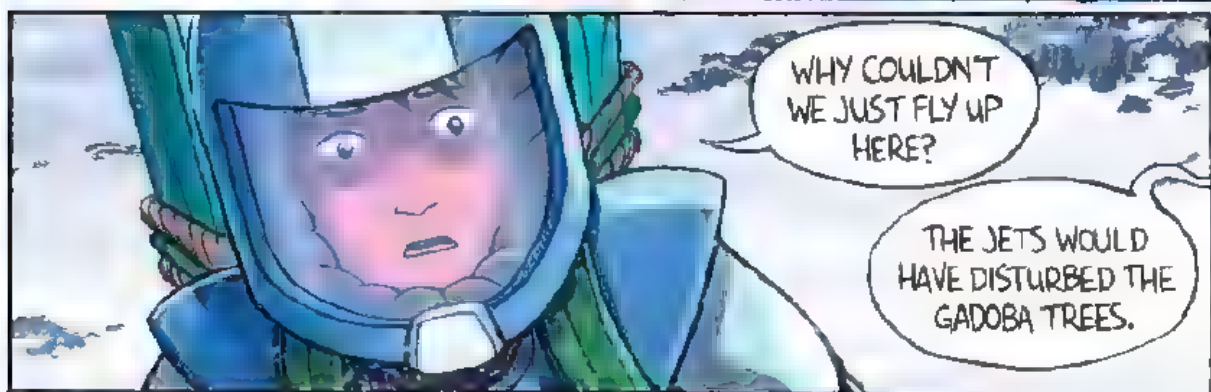
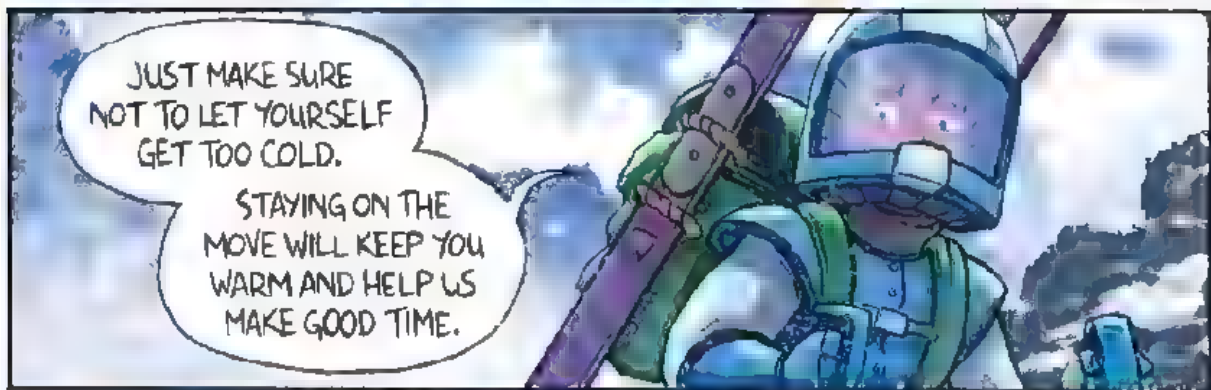
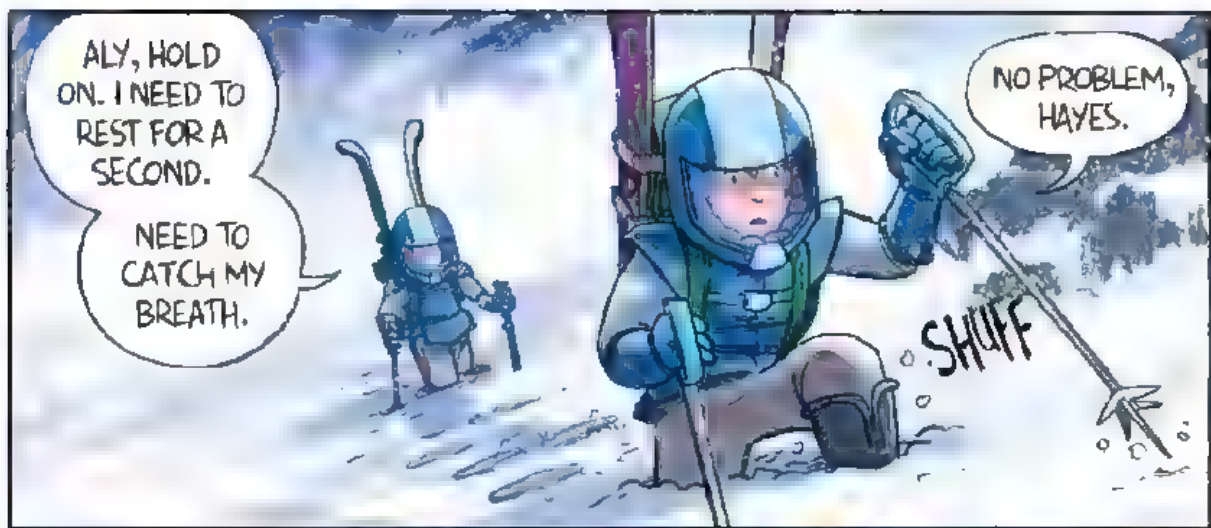


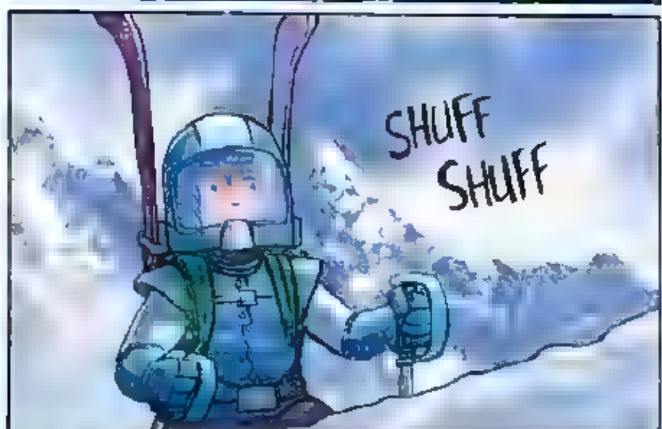
YES.

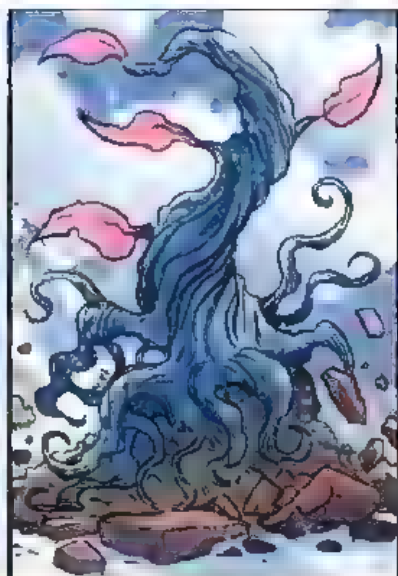
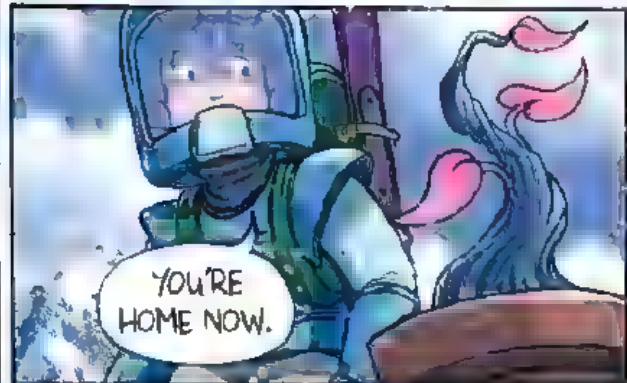
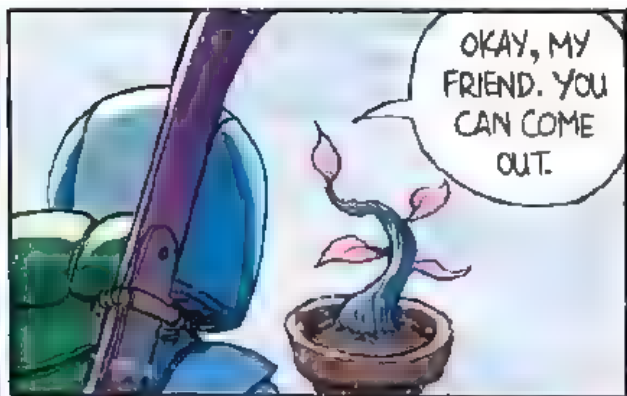
WE TALKED ABOUT
THIS FOR YEARS AND
NOW IT'S HERE.

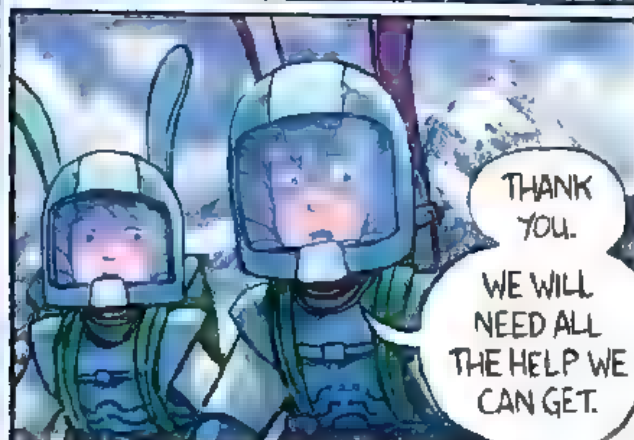
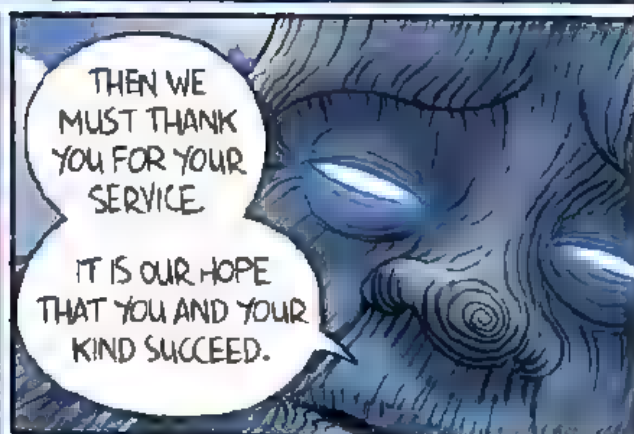
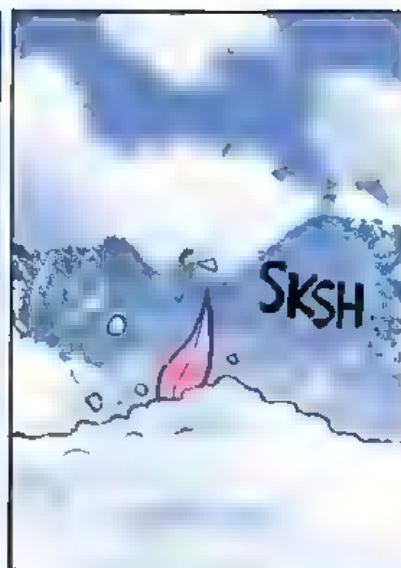


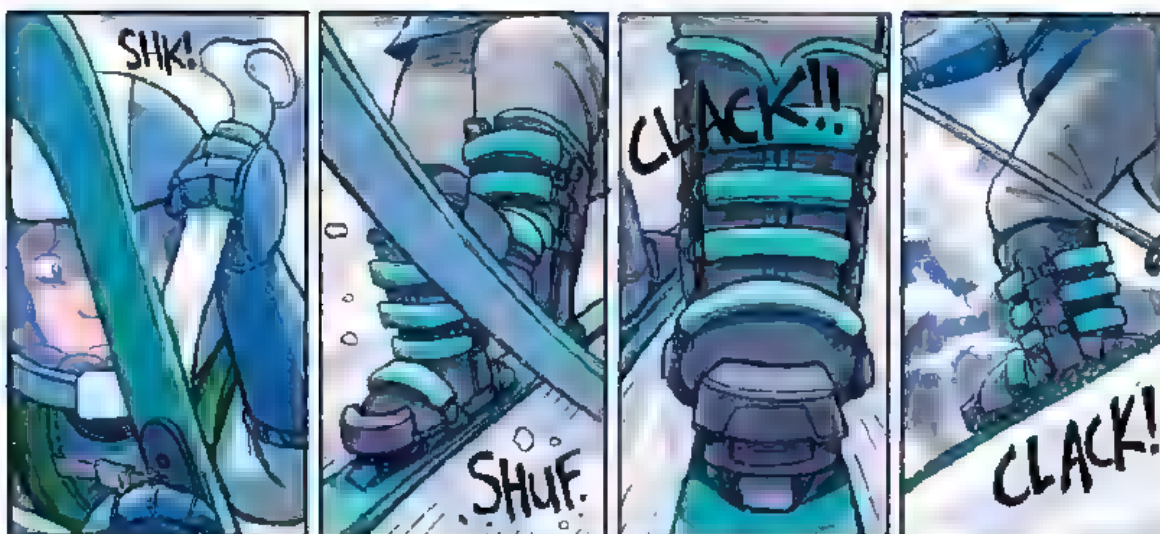




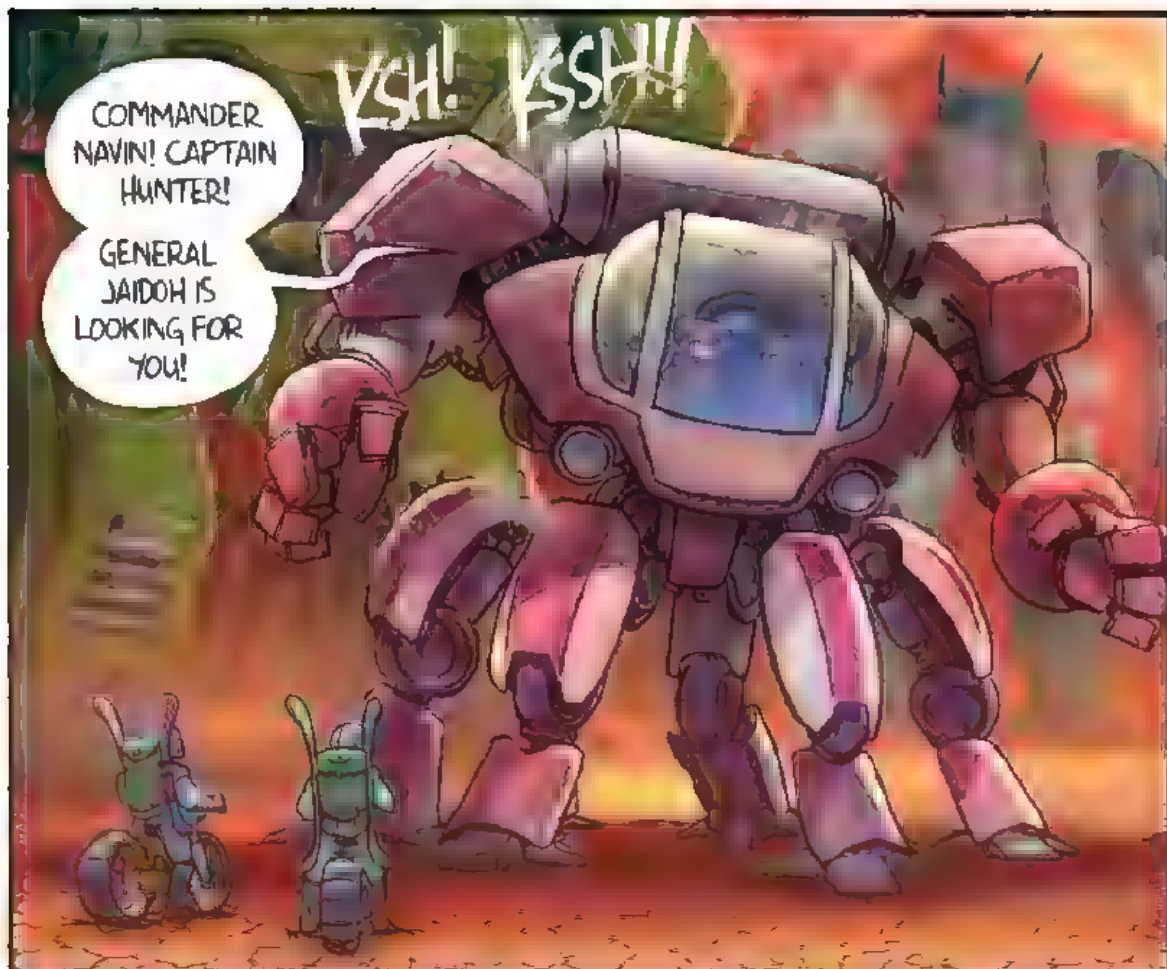








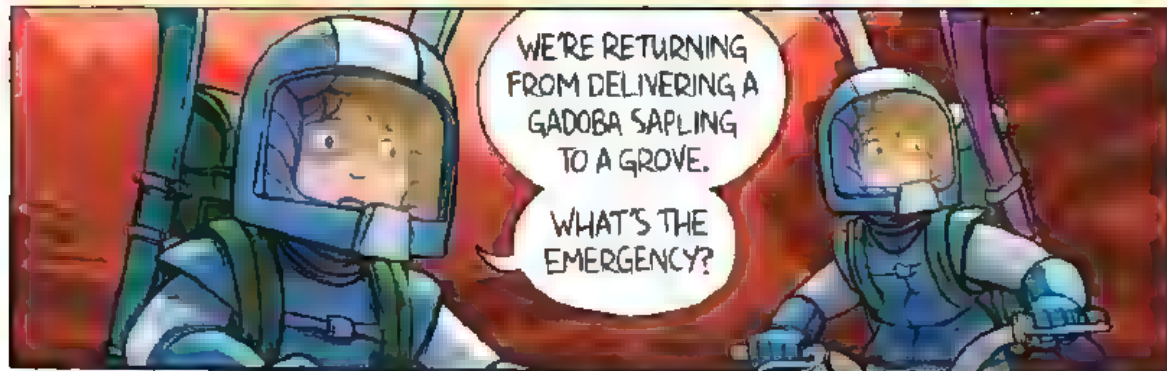




COMMANDER
NAVIN! CAPTAIN
HUNTER!

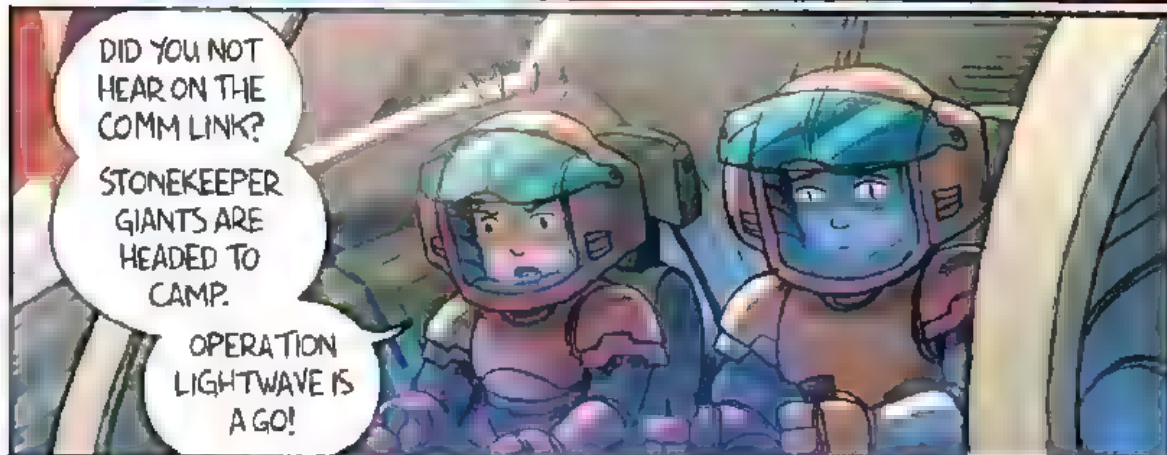
GENERAL
JAIDOH IS
LOOKING FOR
YOU!

VSH! VSSH!!



WE'RE RETURNING
FROM DELIVERING A
GADOBA SAPLING
TO A GROVE.

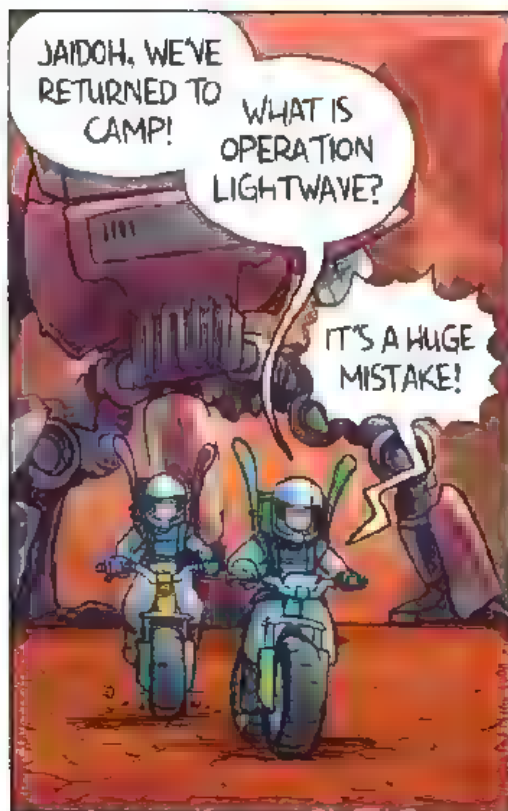
WHAT'S THE
EMERGENCY?

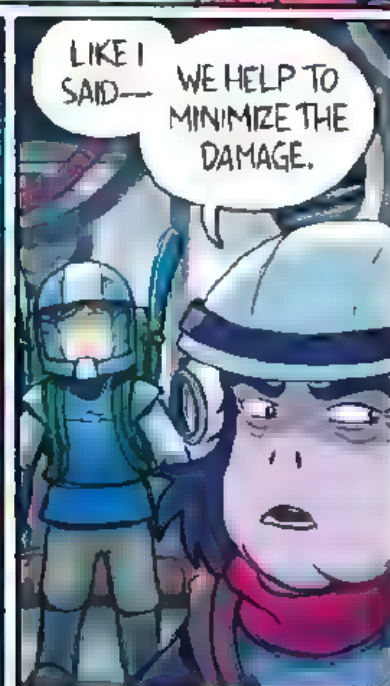
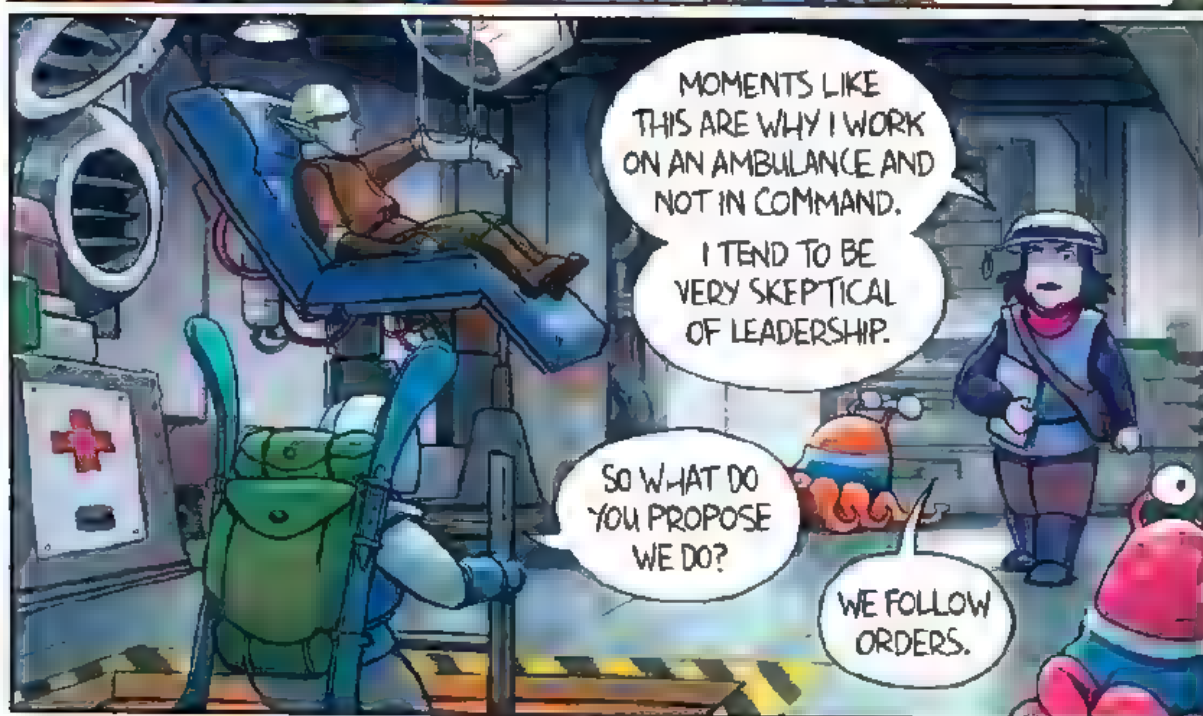
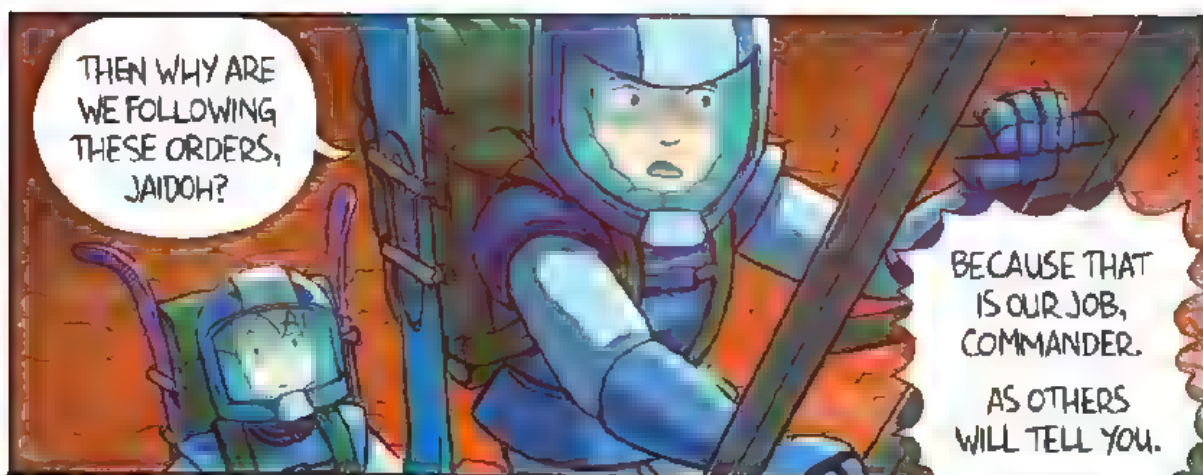


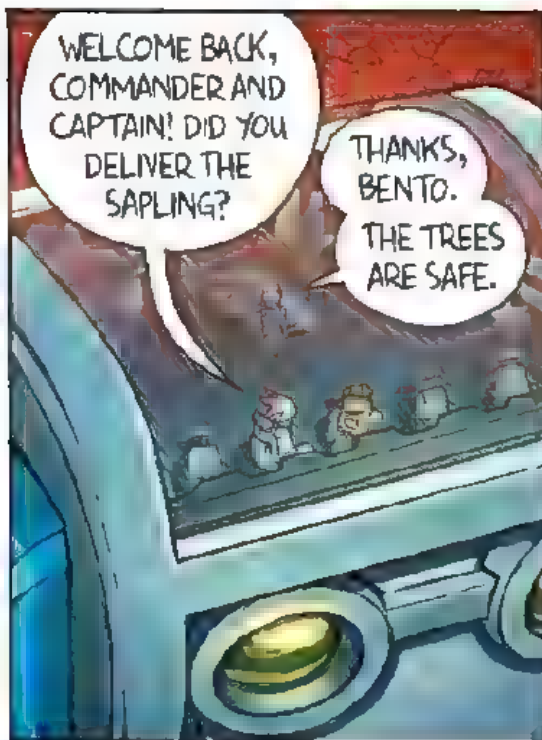
DID YOU NOT
HEAR ON THE
COMM LINK?

STONEKEEPER
GIANTS ARE
HEADED TO
CAMP.

OPERATION
LIGHTWAVE IS
A GO!







WELCOME BACK, COMMANDER AND CAPTAIN! DID YOU DELIVER THE SAPLING?

THANKS, BENTO. THE TREES ARE SAFE.

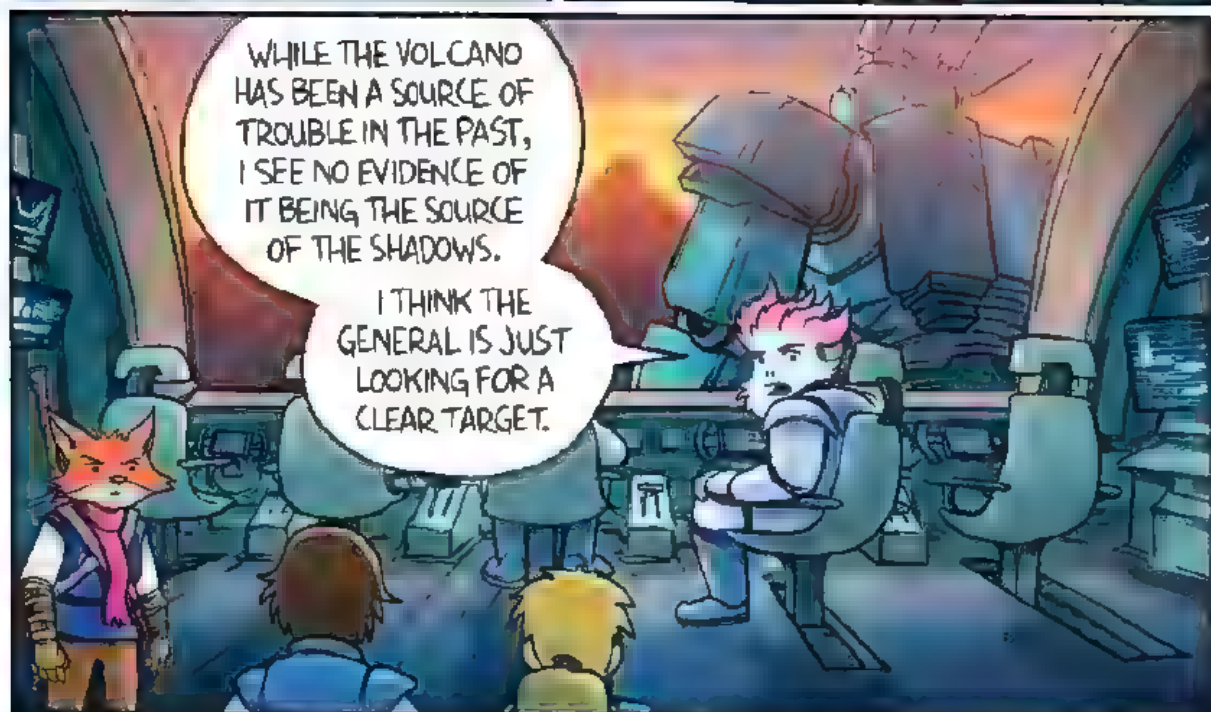


AT LEAST YOU SECURED US A SMALL VICTORY THERE!
I'LL TAKE ALL THE GOOD NEWS I CAN GET!



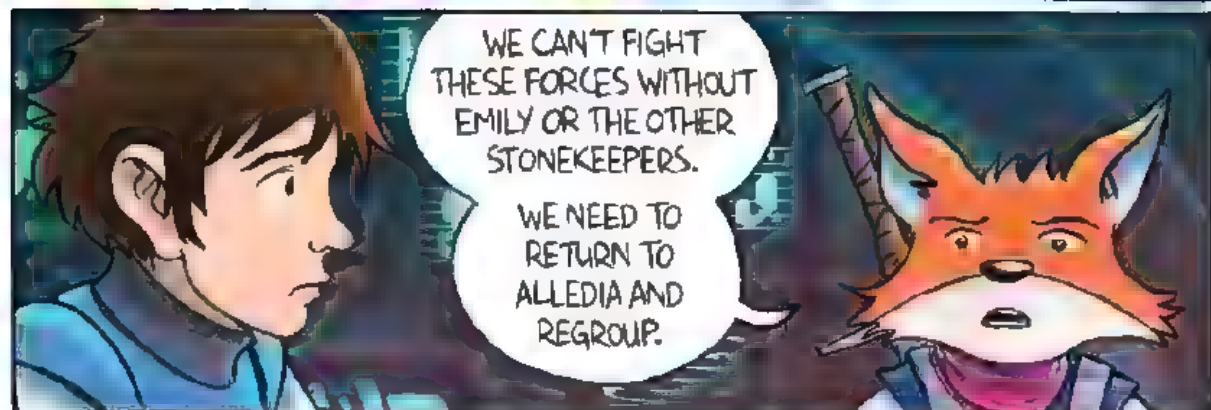
WHAT'S THE SCOUTING REPORT ON MOUNT TEPAS?

IT IS AN ACTIVE VOLCANO.



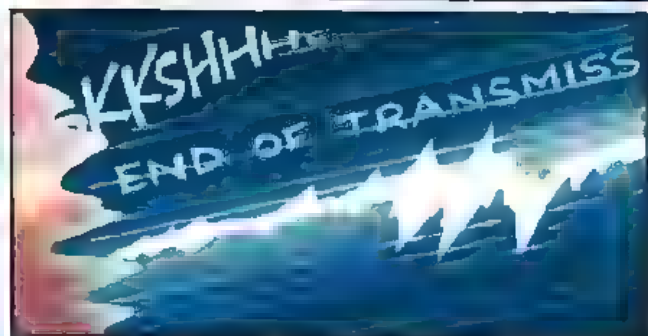
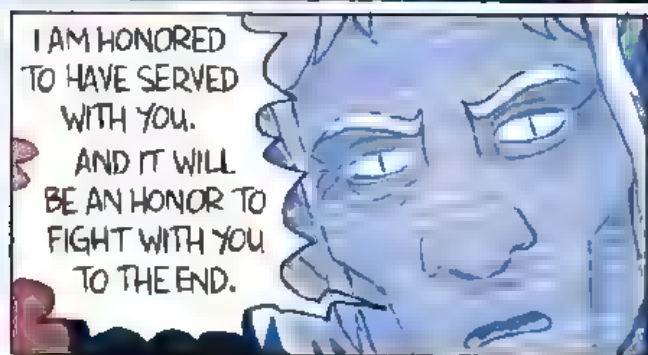
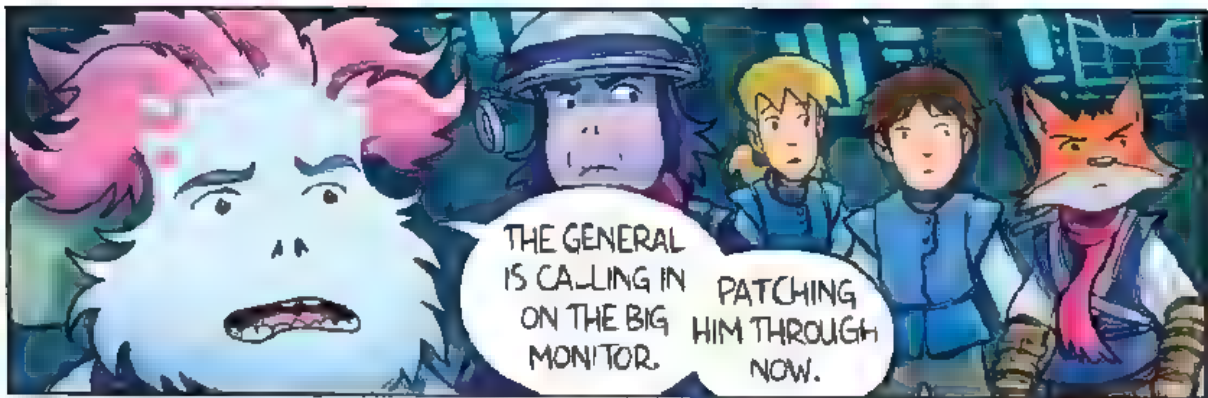
WHILE THE VOLCANO HAS BEEN A SOURCE OF TROUBLE IN THE PAST, I SEE NO EVIDENCE OF IT BEING THE SOURCE OF THE SHADOWS.

I THINK THE GENERAL IS JUST LOOKING FOR A CLEAR TARGET.



WE CAN'T FIGHT THESE FORCES WITHOUT EMILY OR THE OTHER STONEKEEPERS.

WE NEED TO RETURN TO ALLEDIA AND REGROUP.





TAKE THE
CONTROLS,
NAVIN.

STAY ON
HIGH ALERT.



IF WHAT HE
SAYS IS TRUE--

WHAT HAPPENED
TO EMILY?! IS SHE
ALIVE?!



I THINK
EMILY IS OKAY,
MOM.

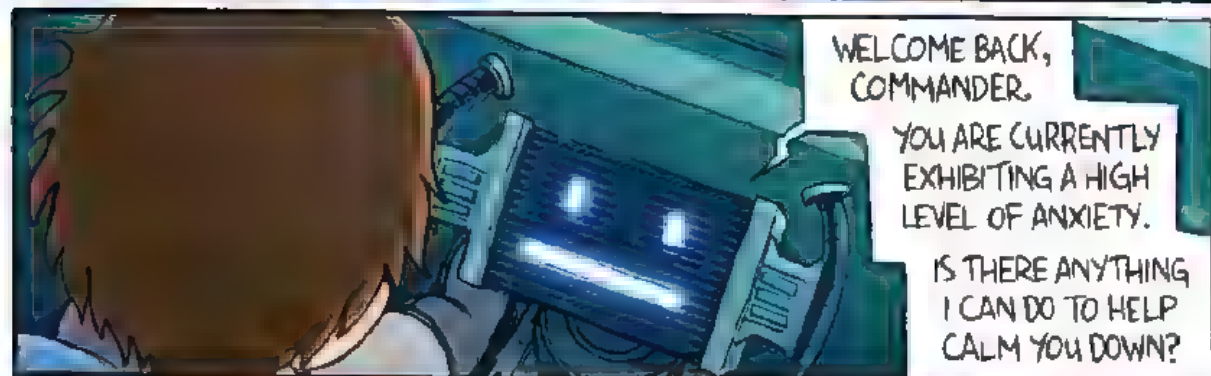
I'M NOT WORRIED
ABOUT HER.

HOW CAN
YOU KNOW?!



ESPECIALLY
AFTER WHAT
THAT MAN
SAID?!

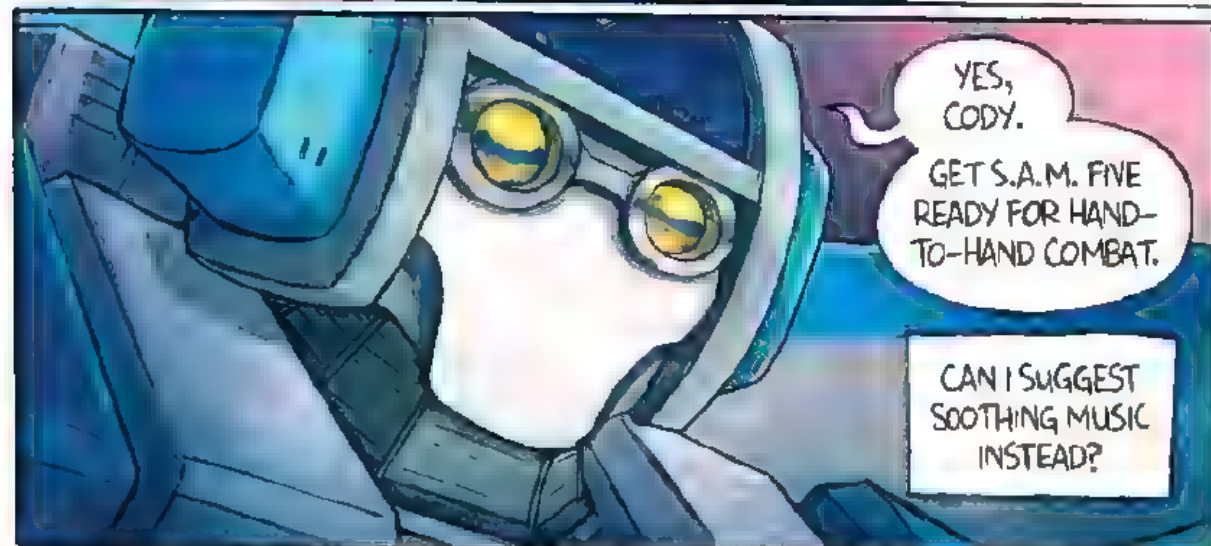
I JUST
HAVE A STRONG
FEELING.



WELCOME BACK,
COMMANDER.

YOU ARE CURRENTLY
EXHIBITING A HIGH
LEVEL OF ANXIETY.

IS THERE ANYTHING
I CAN DO TO HELP
CALM YOU DOWN?

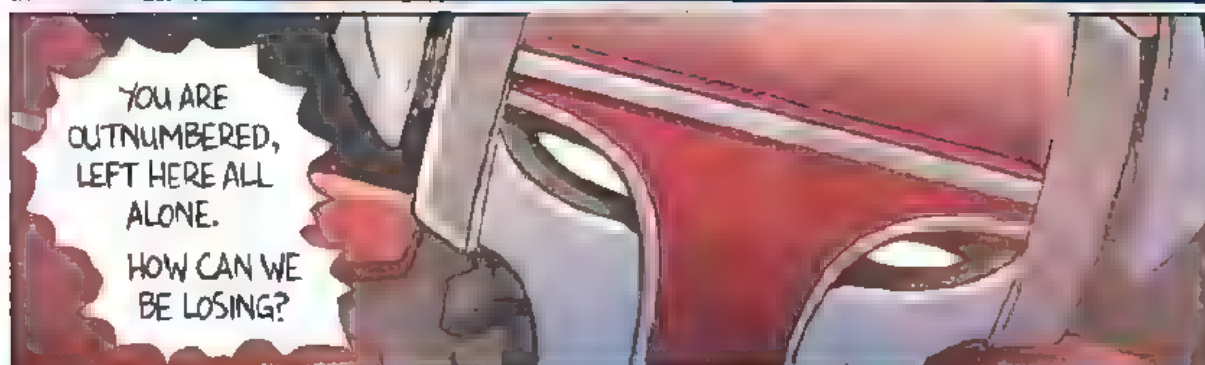


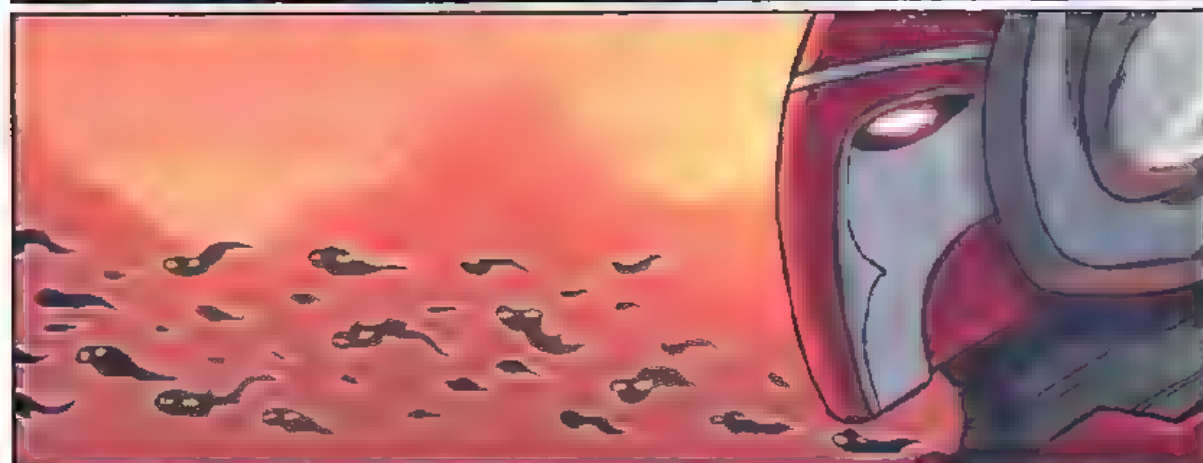
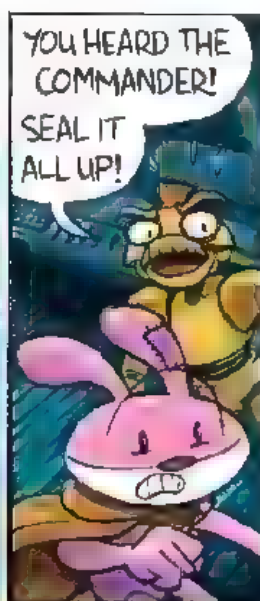
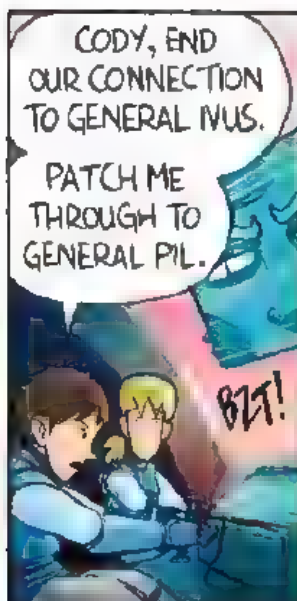
YES,
CODY.

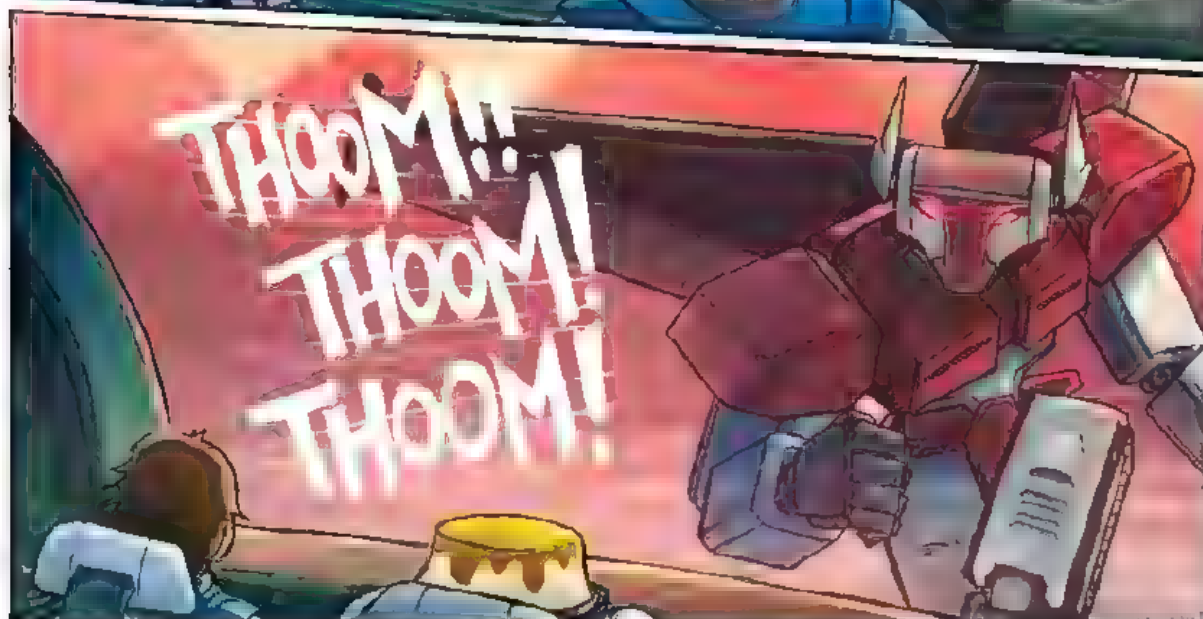
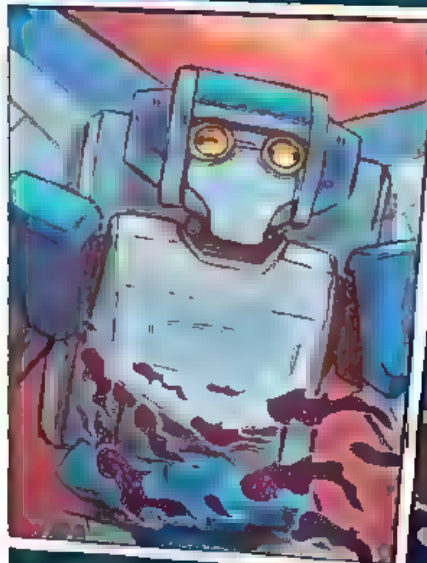
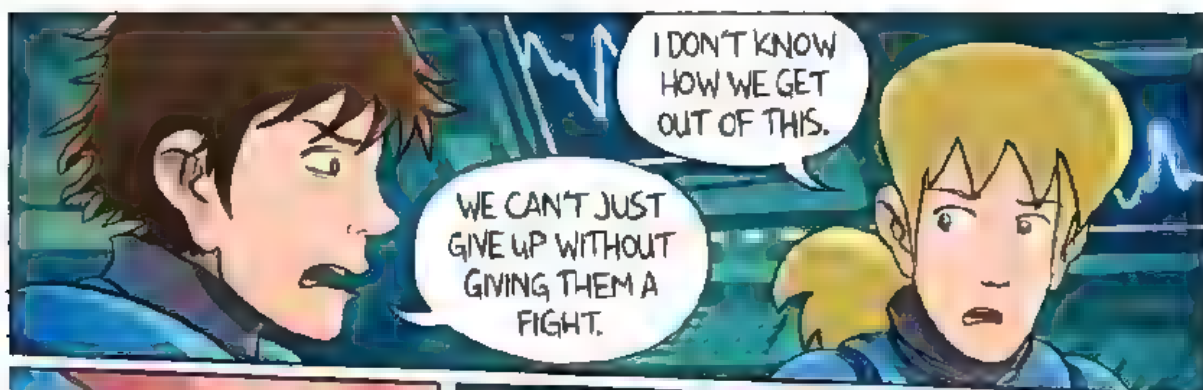
GET S.A.M. FIVE
READY FOR HAND-
TO-HAND COMBAT.

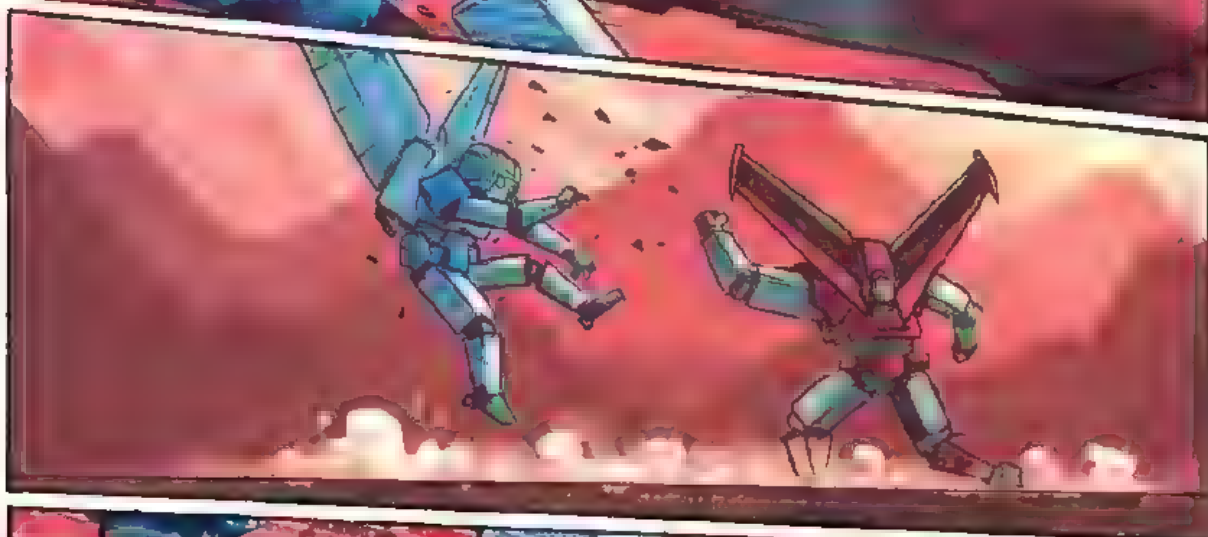
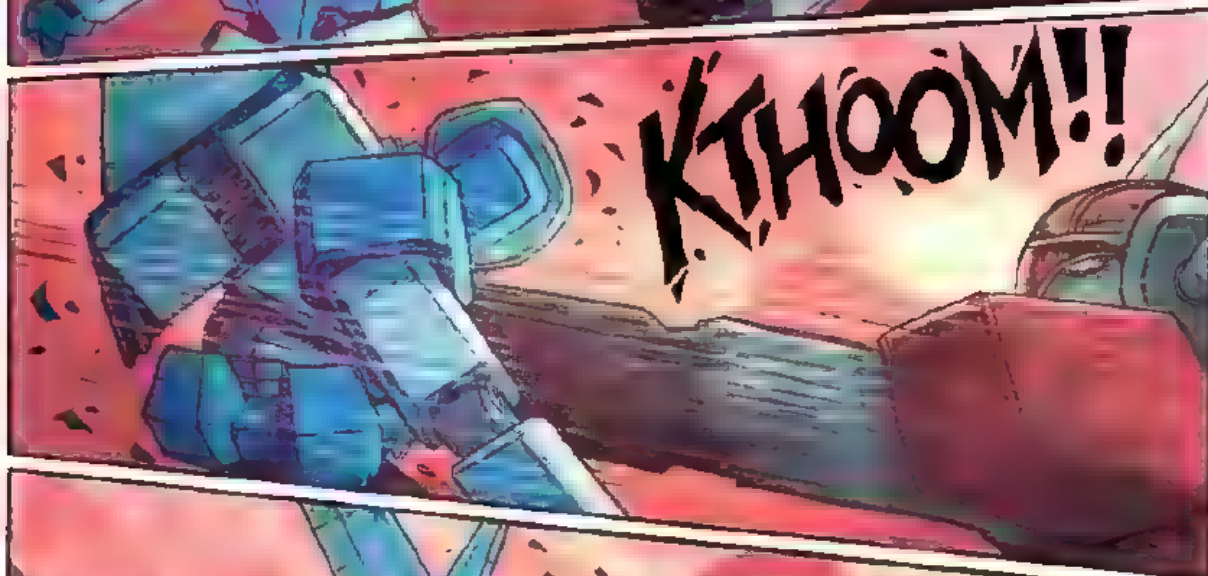
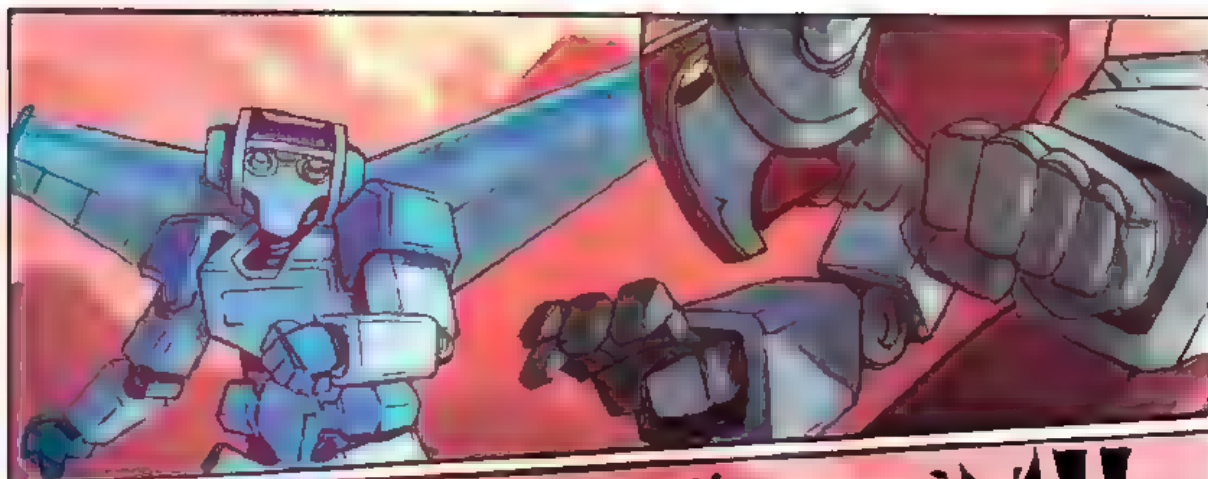
CAN I SUGGEST
SOOTHING MUSIC
INSTEAD?



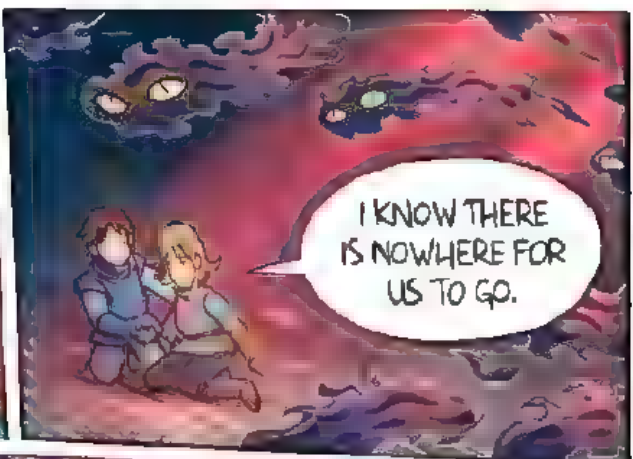
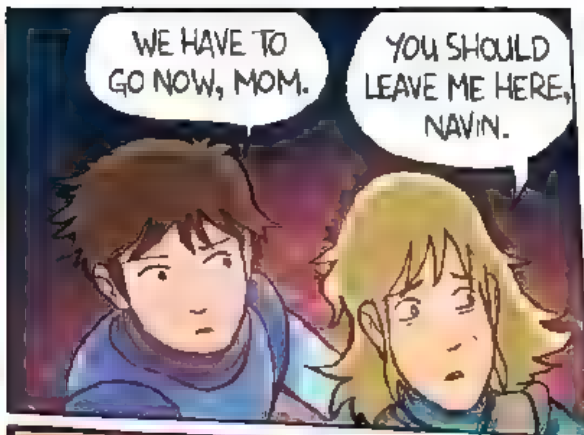


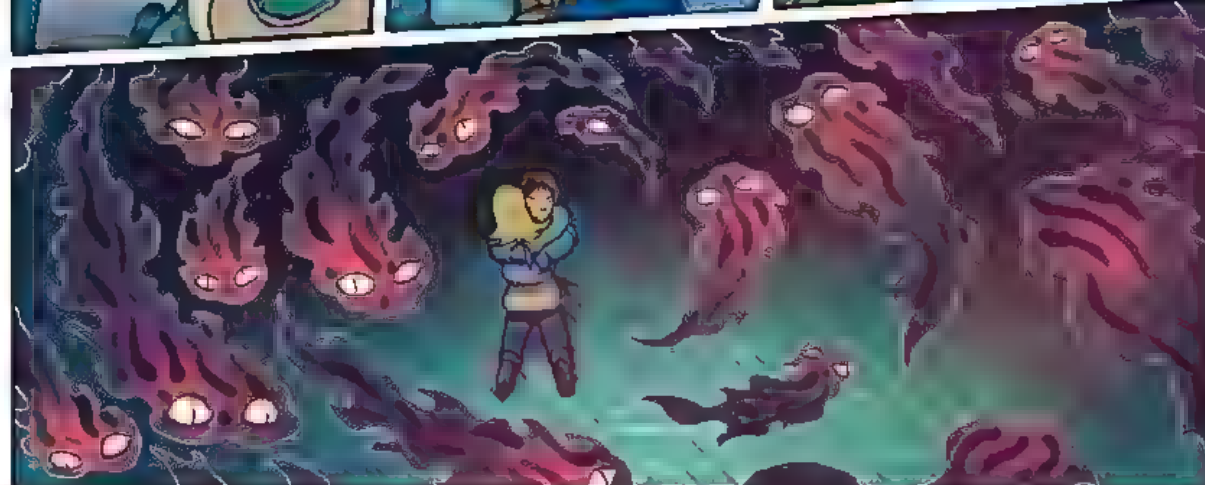
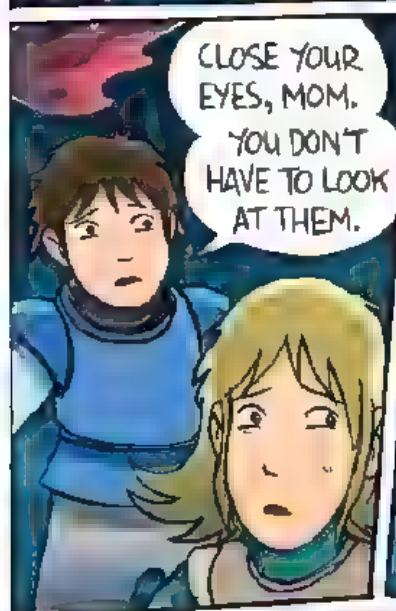




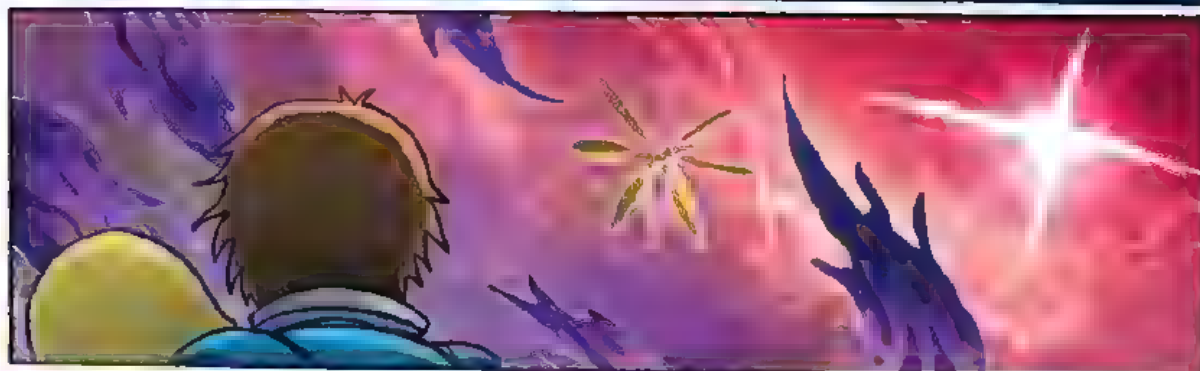
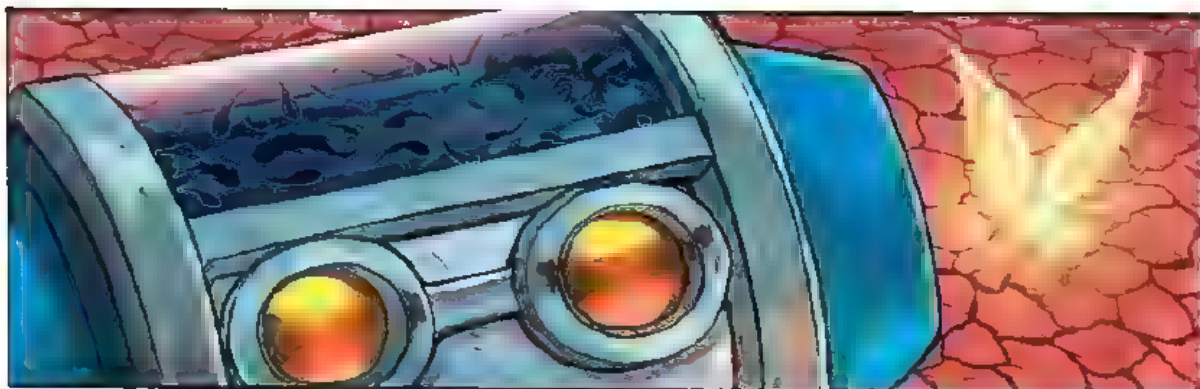






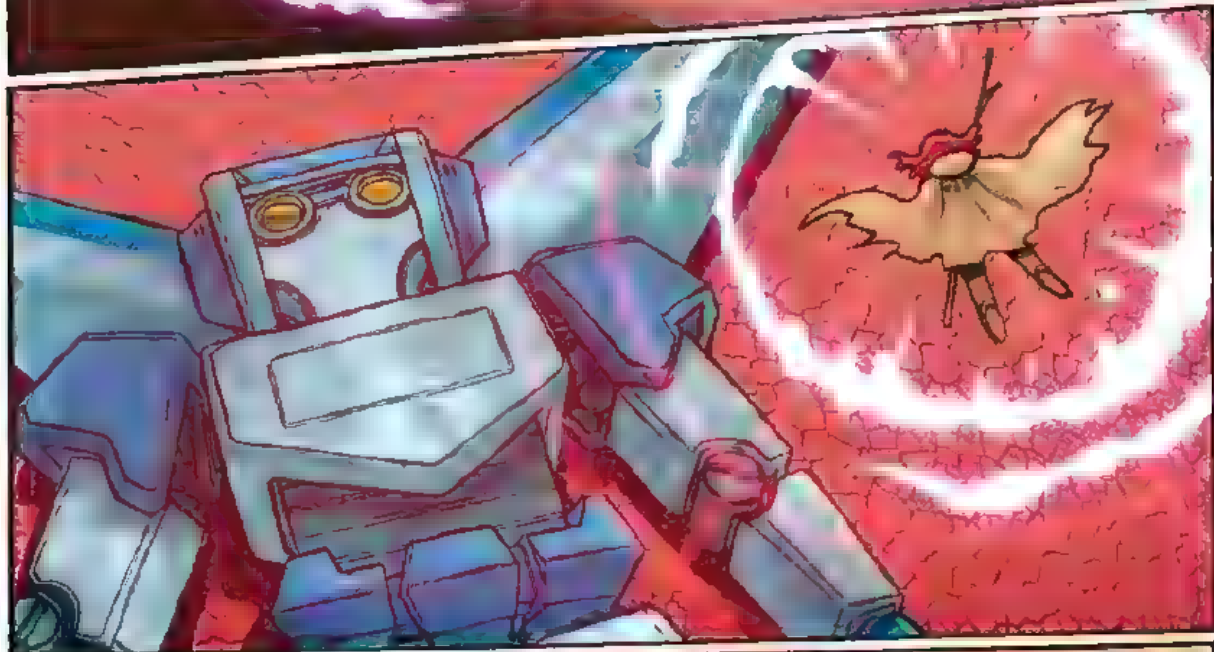
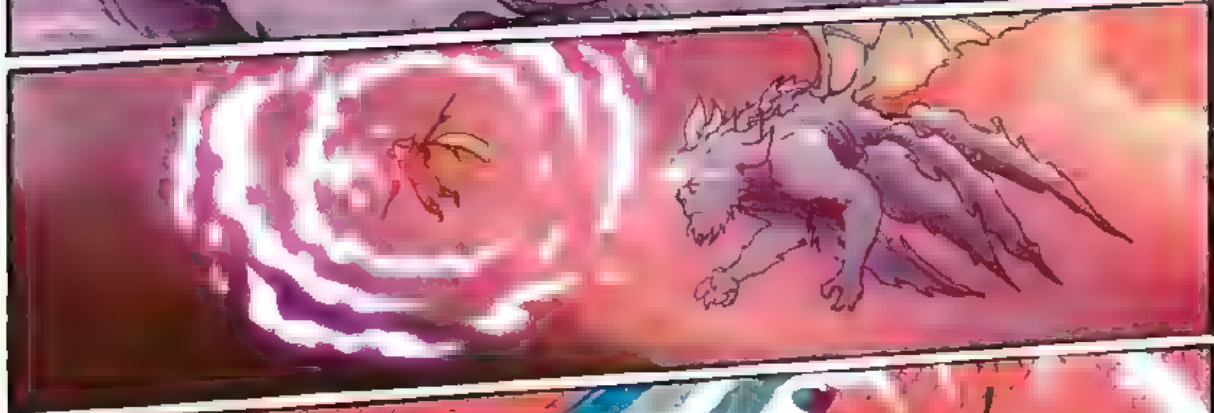
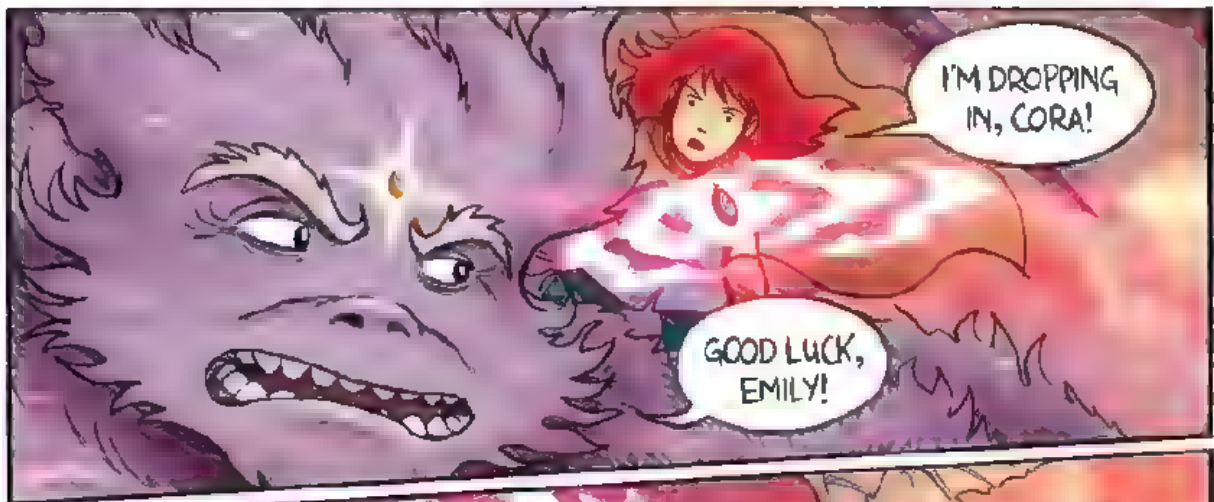


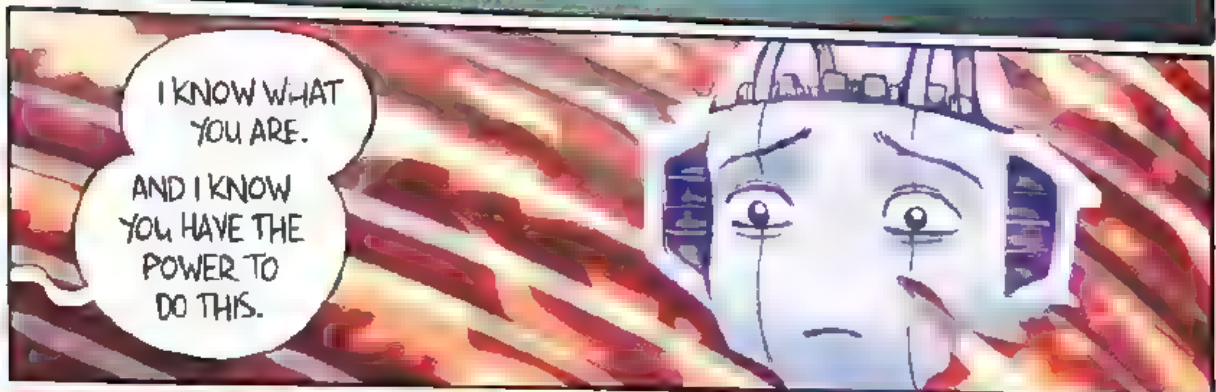
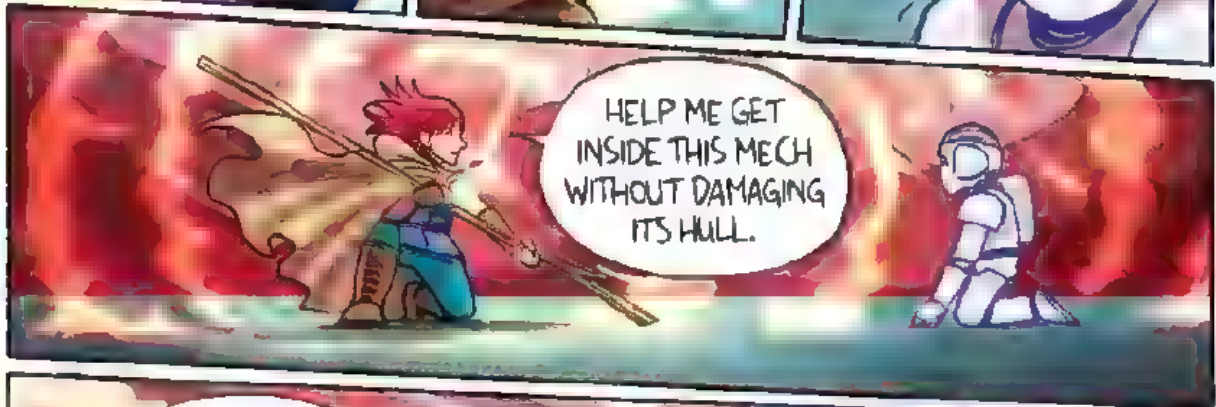
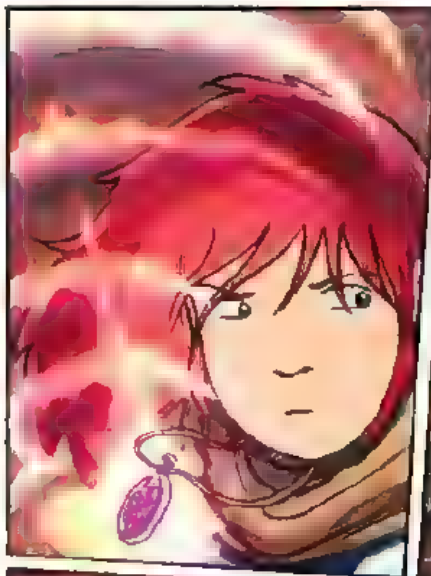


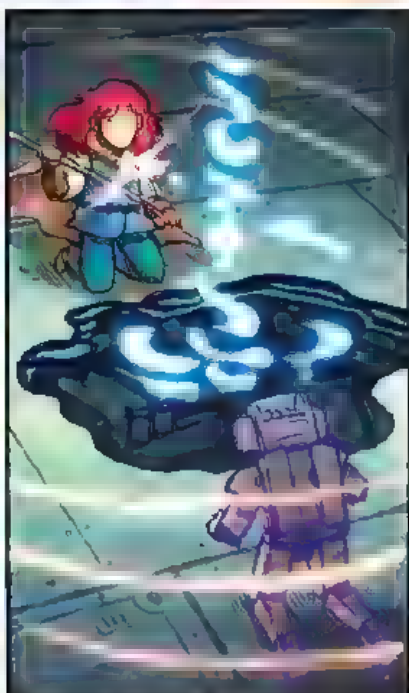
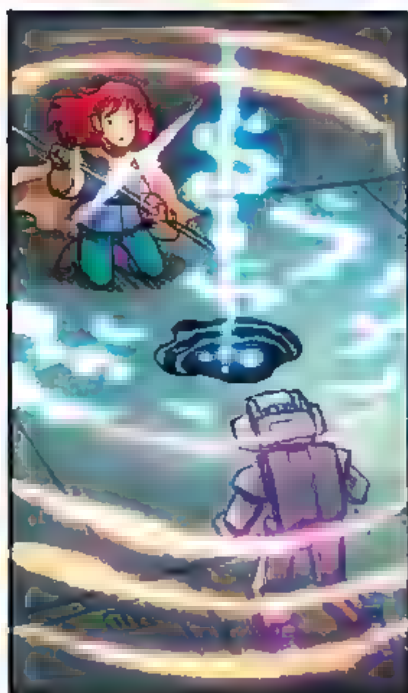
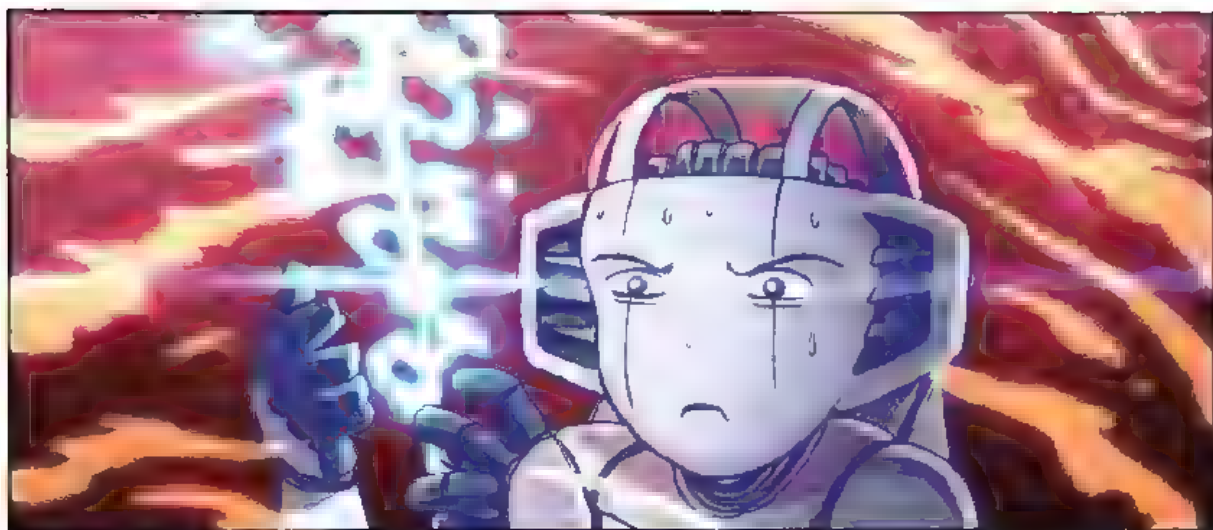


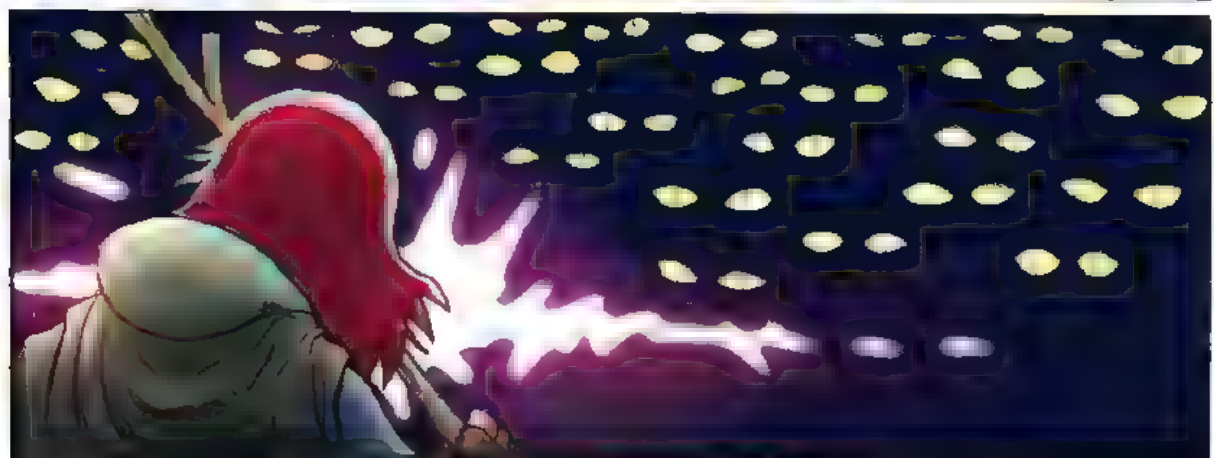
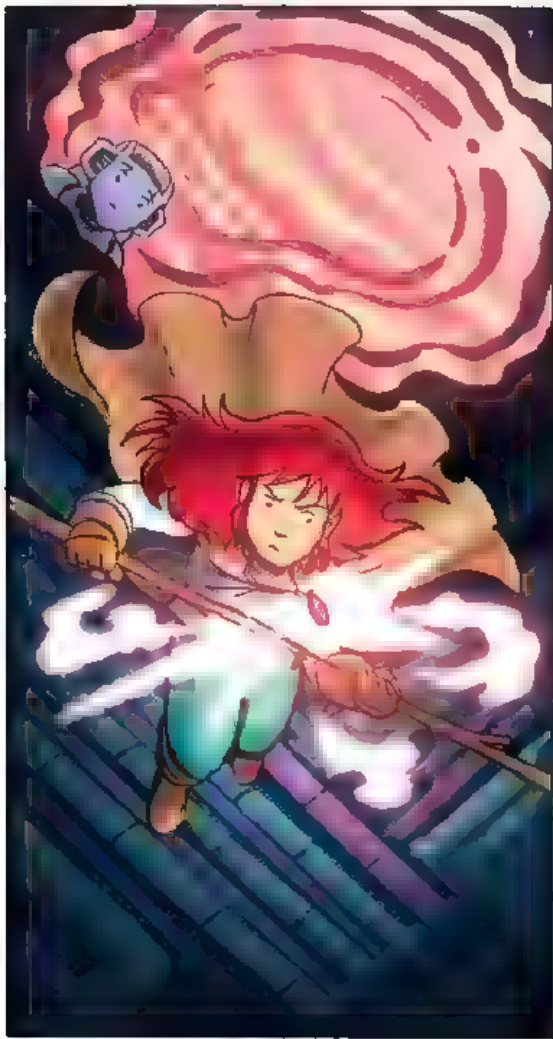


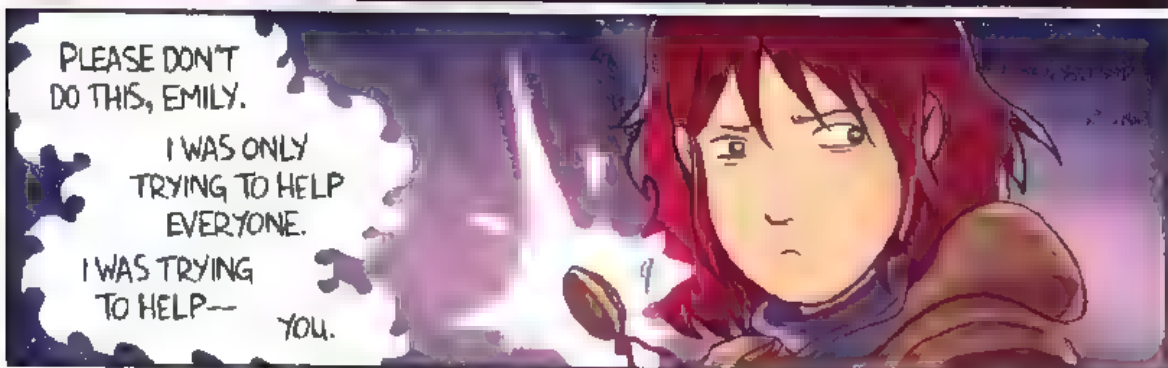
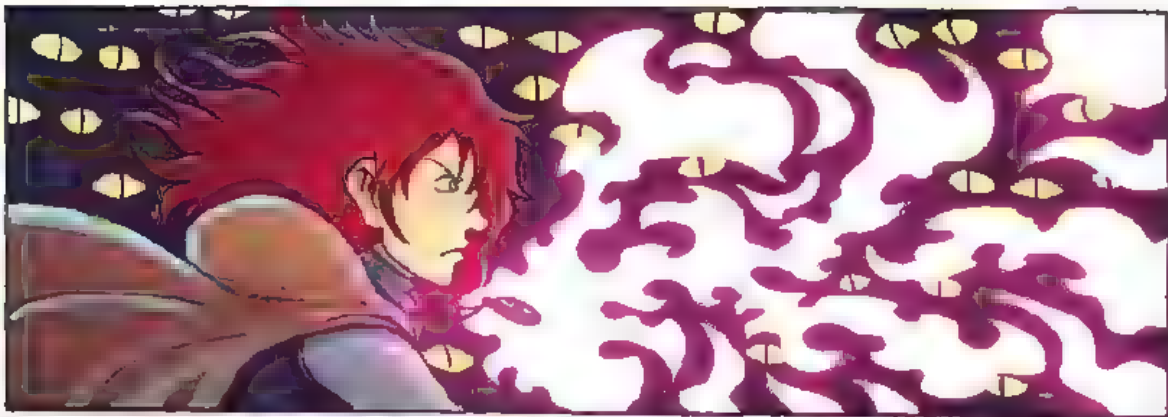






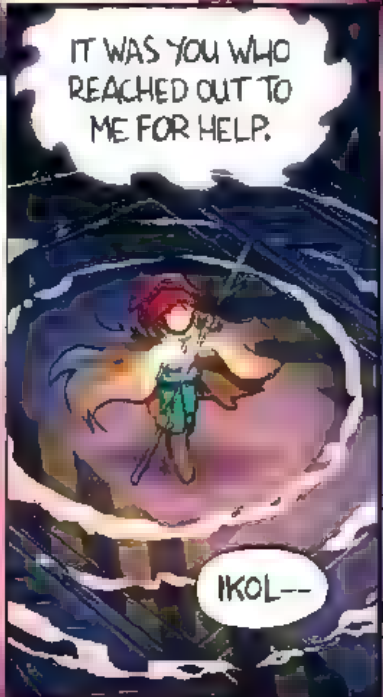








REMEMBER,
EMILY--



IT WAS YOU WHO
REACHED OUT TO
ME FOR HELP.



THIS IS
WHAT YOU CALL
HELP?

IKOL--


YOU POSSESSED
MY FAMILY --

CAUSED NEEDLESS
DEATHS --

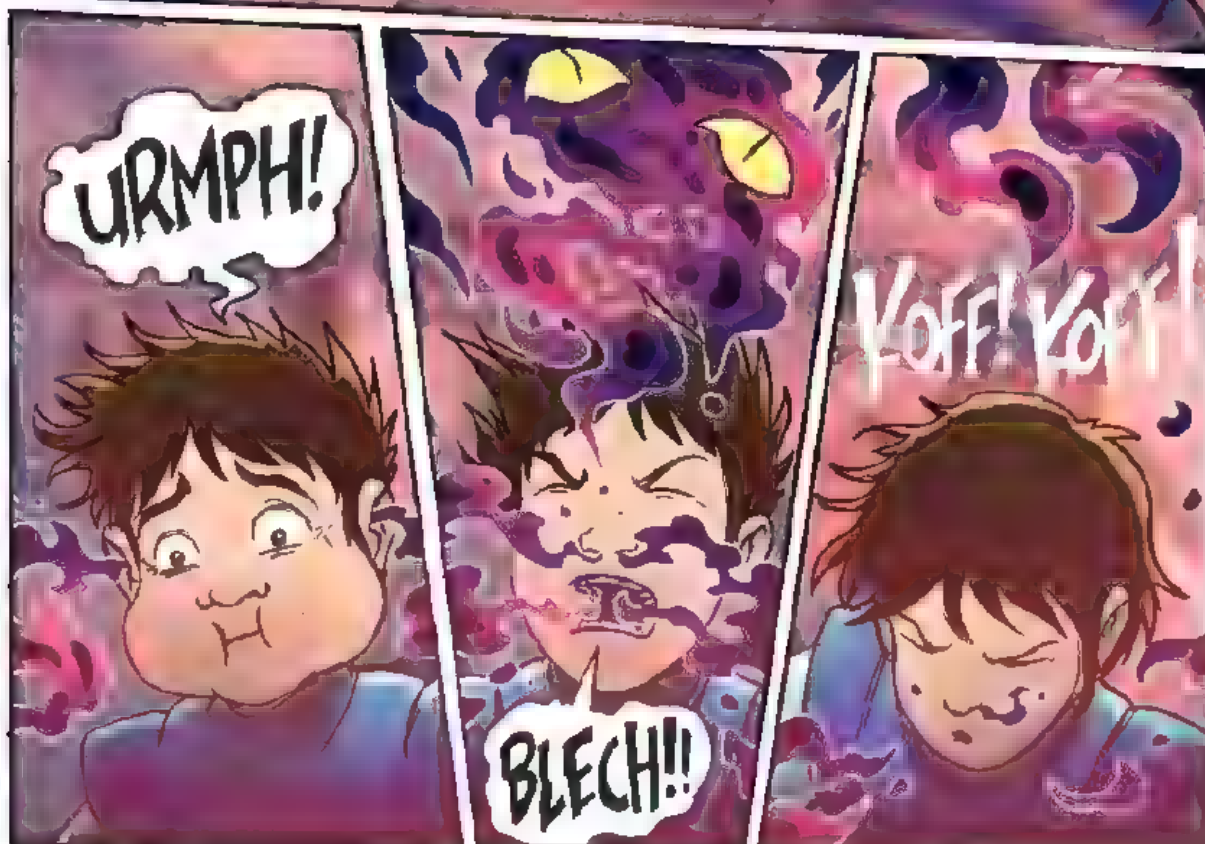
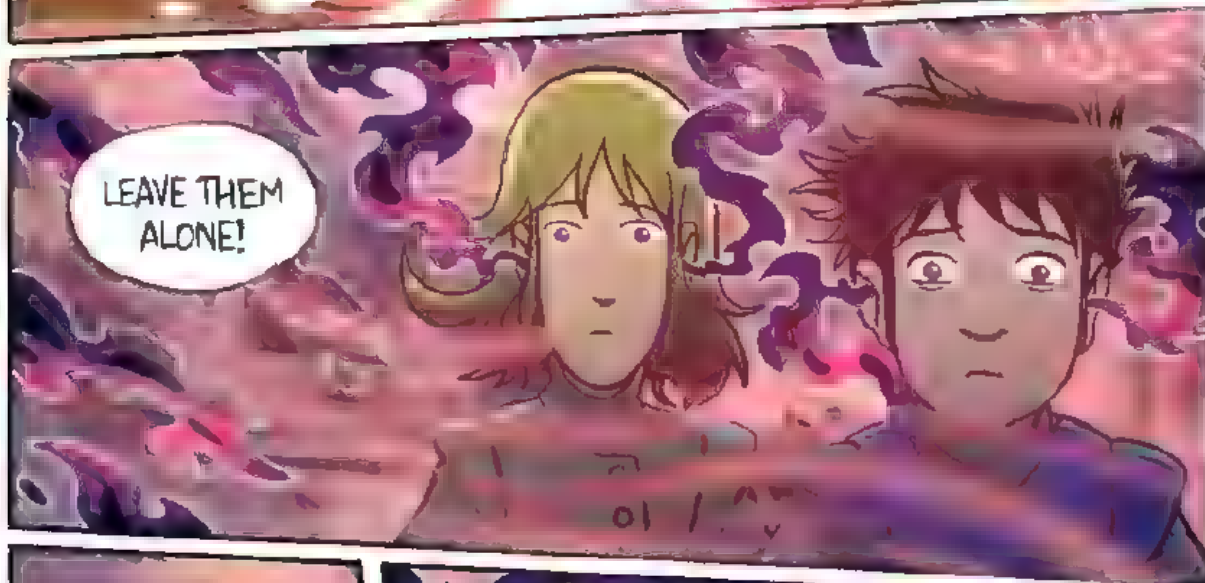
DISMANTLED
CIVILIZATIONS --

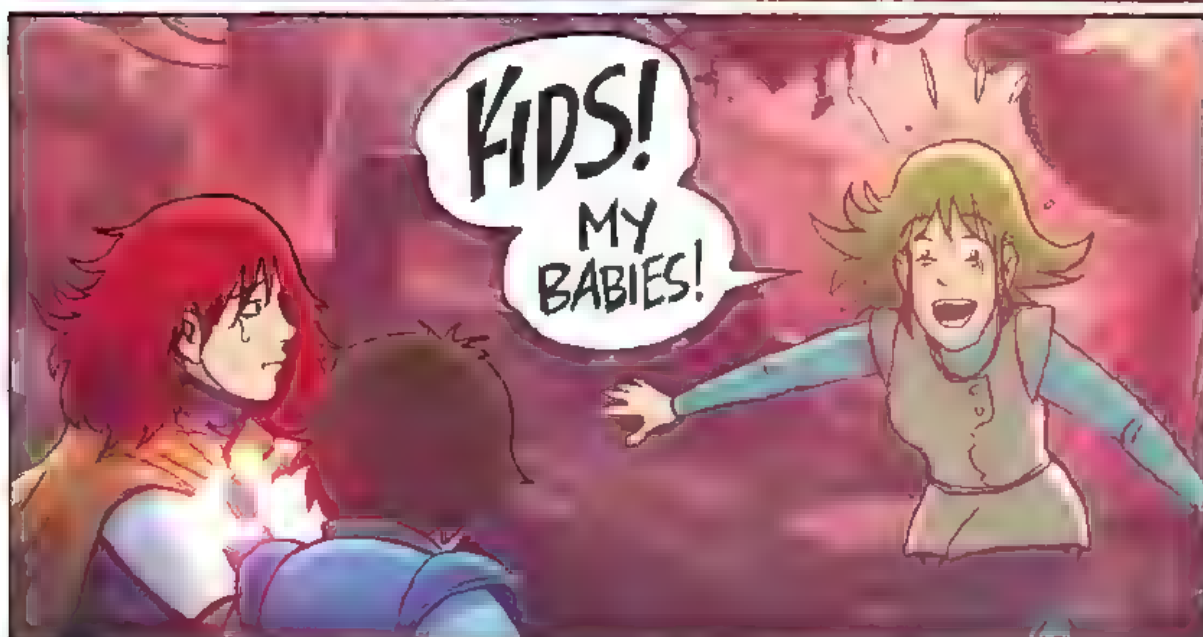
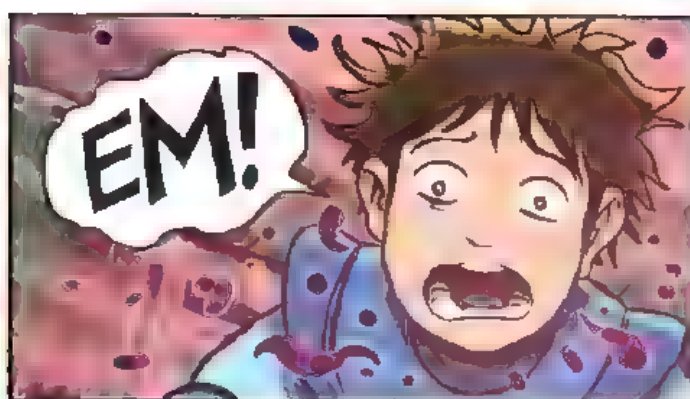
MANIPULATED
OTHERS FOR YOUR
OWN BENEFIT--

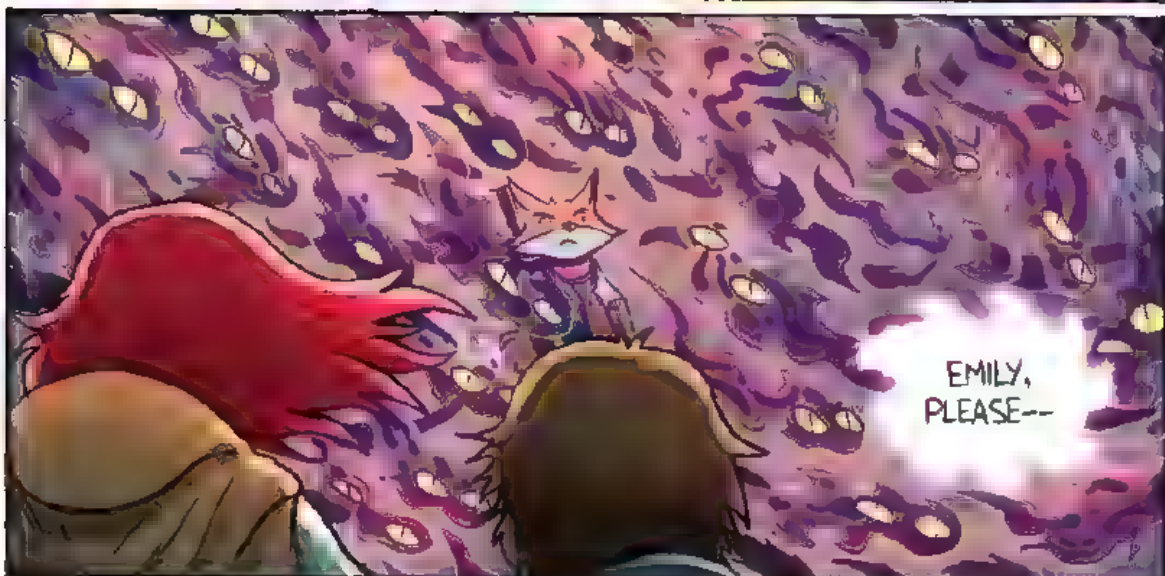
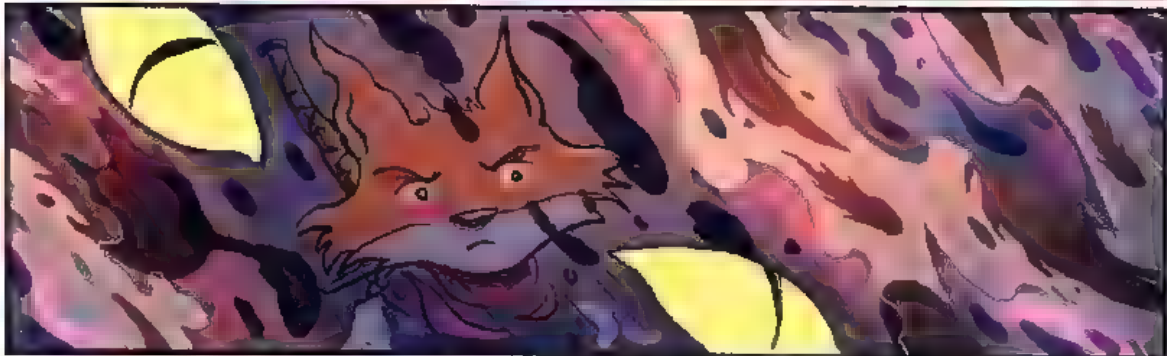
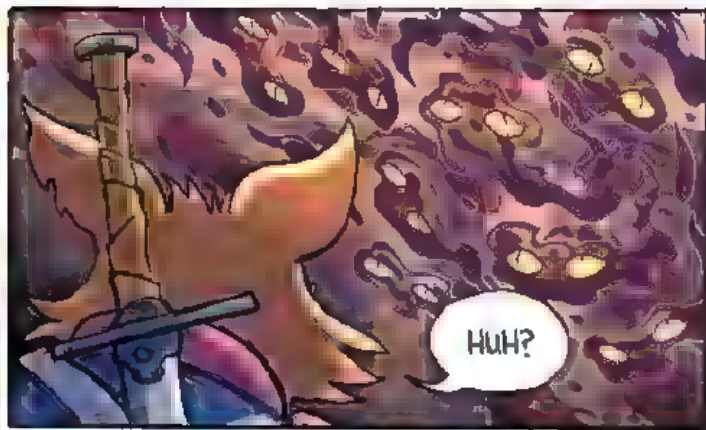
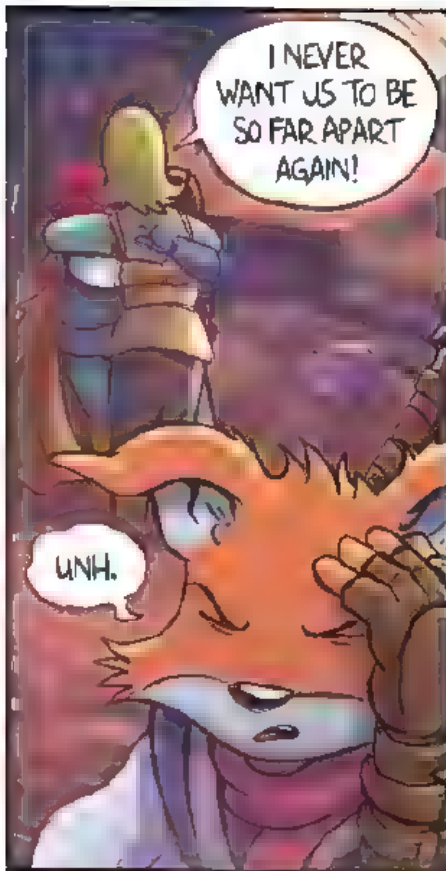
TREATED PEOPLE
LIKE LAB RATS FOR
YOUR EXPERIMENTS --



NO. YOU ARE
NOT HELPFUL,
IKOL.

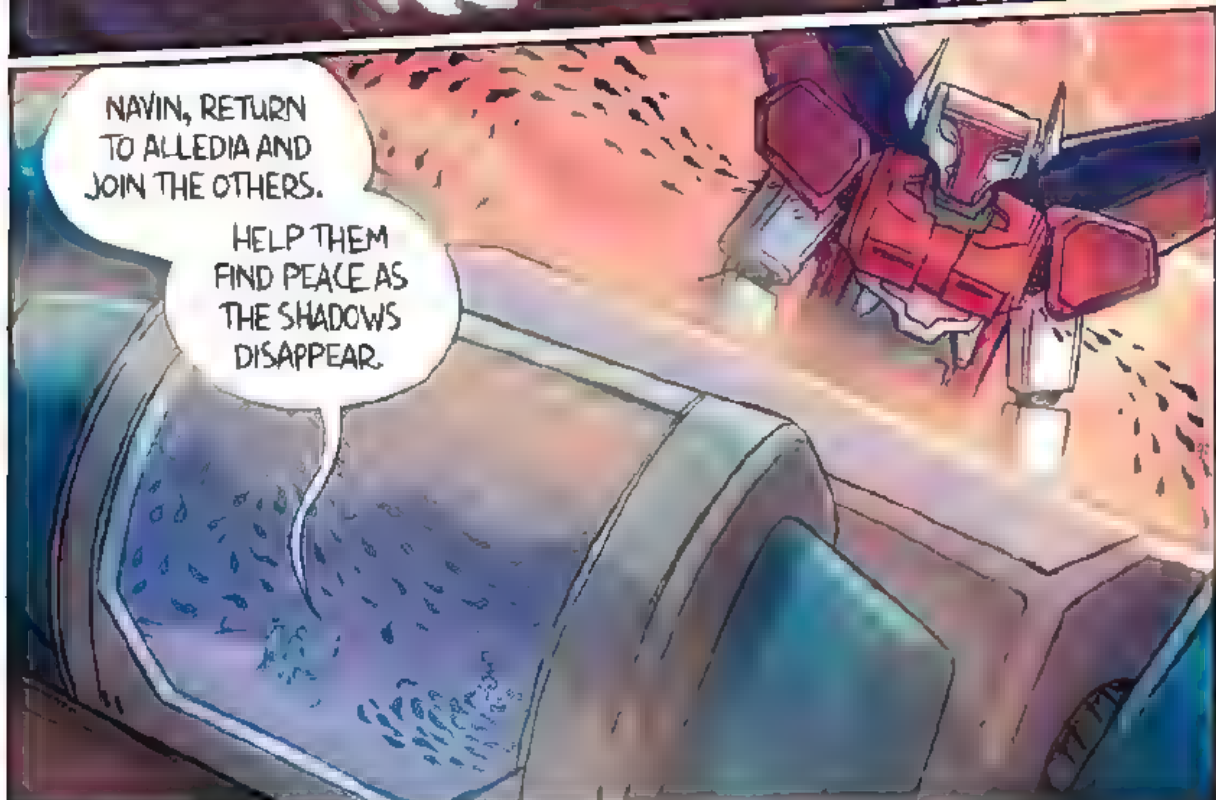
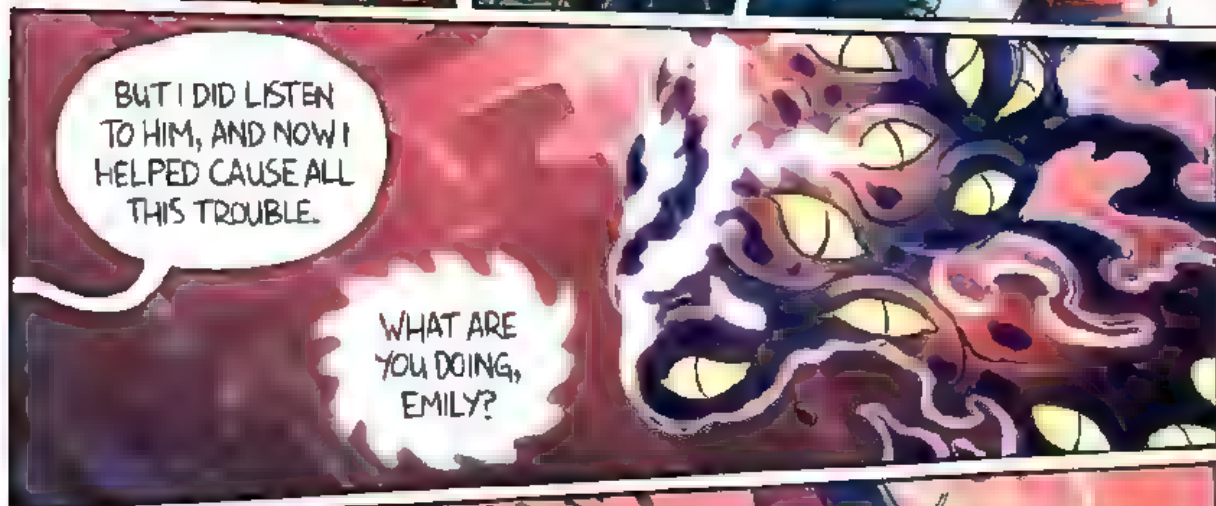
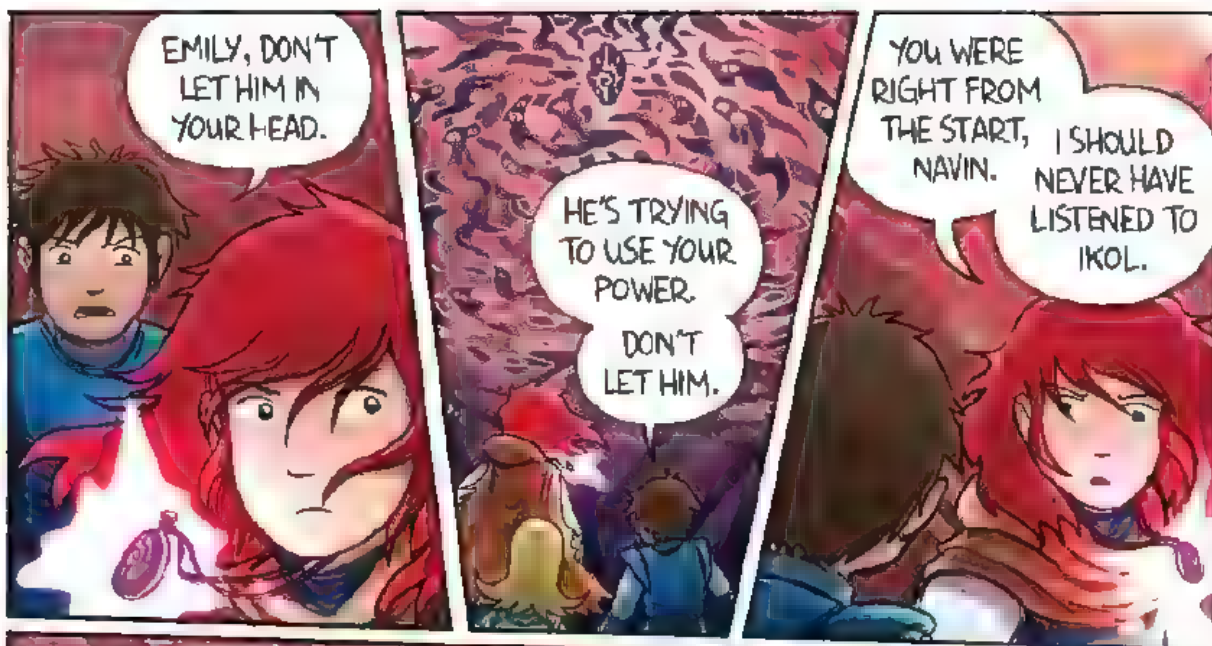


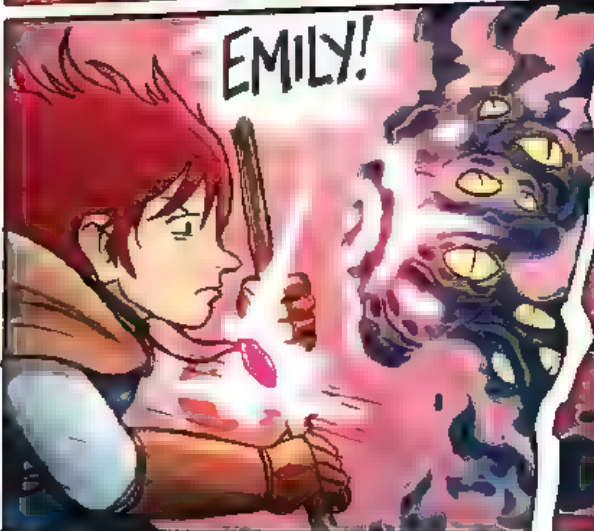
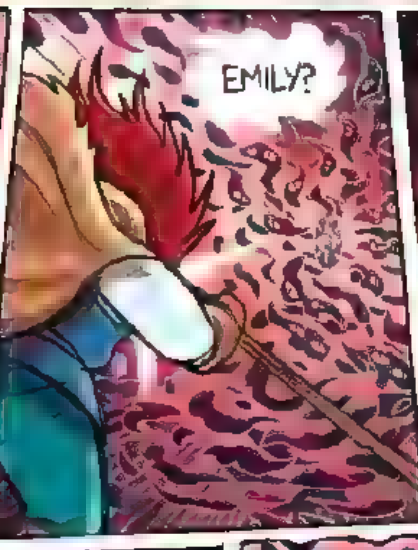
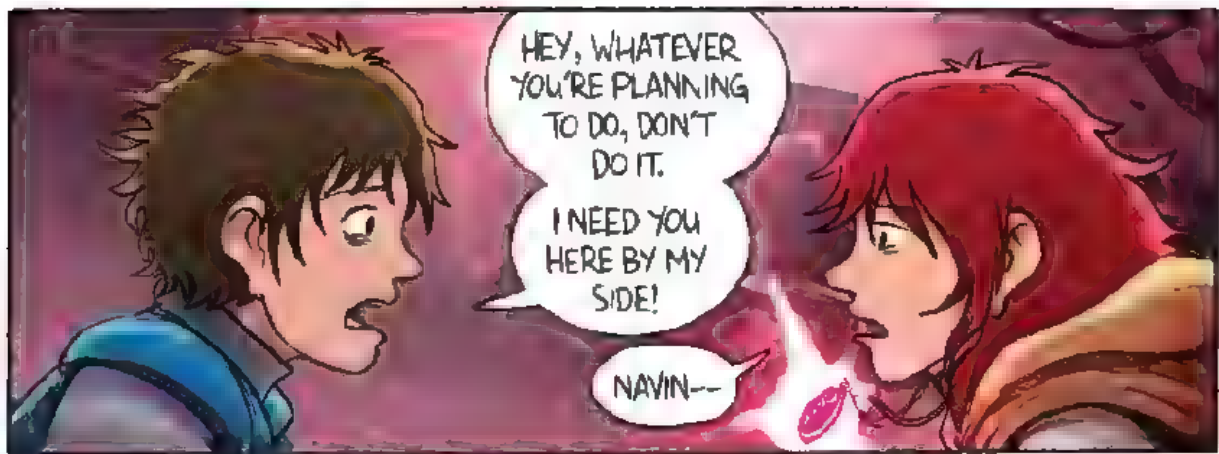






DO NOT
FORGET
ABOUT ME.









JOIN US
DOWN HERE
WHERE IT IS
SAFE.

HIDE AWAY
WITH US.
DOWN HERE
WE CANNOT
BE HARMED.
PLEASE--



STAY
WITH US.



GRAB!



SAFE.

IT IS BETTER
DOWN HERE.

GIVE IN.

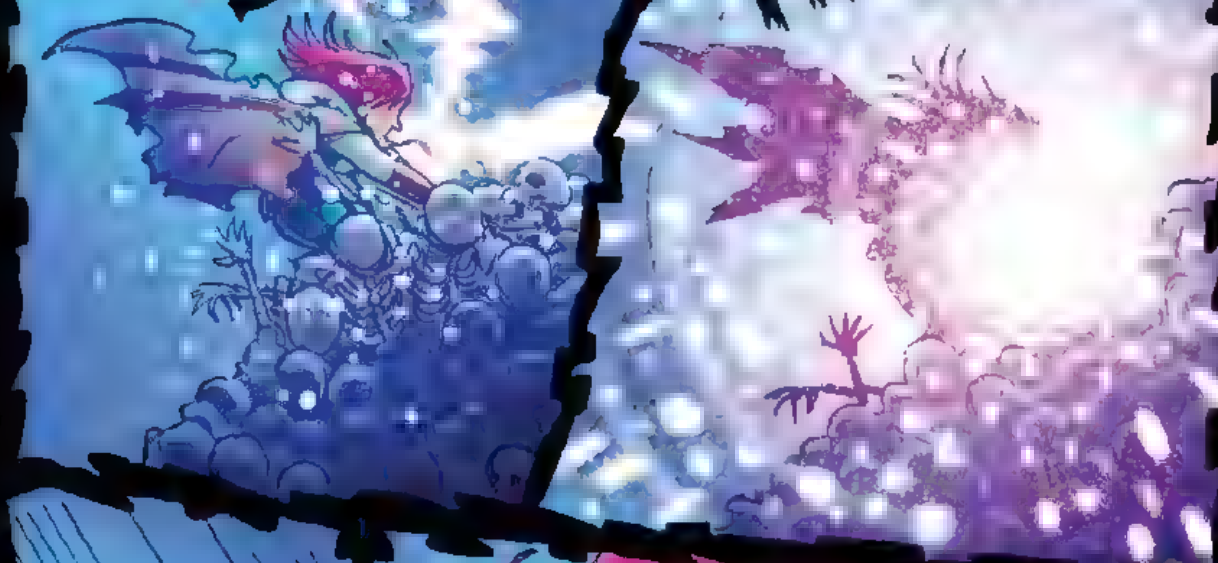


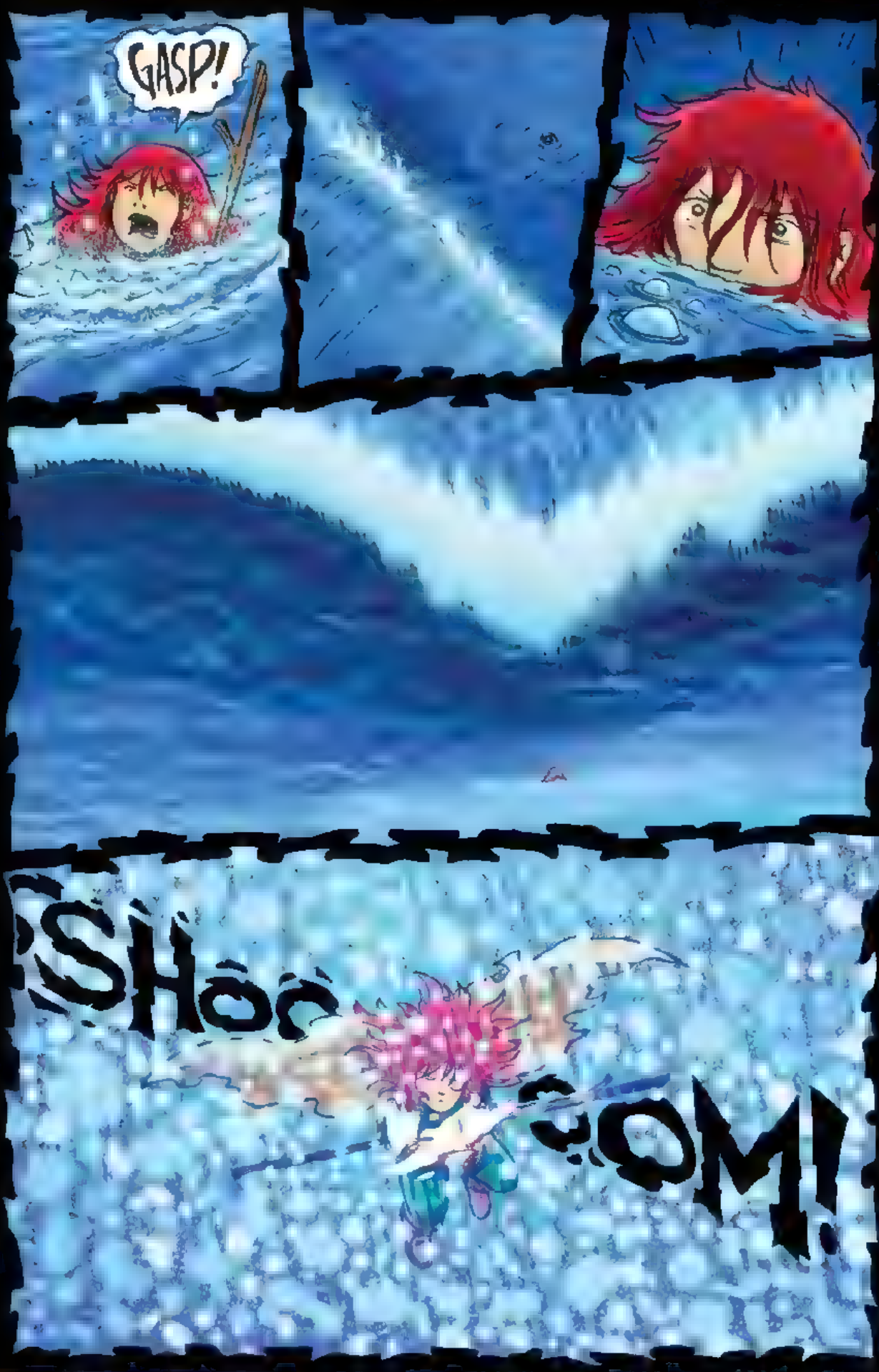
STAY
WITH US.



SPAK!!

THOOM!!







REMAIN
CALM.



FIND YOUR
WAY TO THE
SURFACE.



THE LIGHT
IS BELOW.

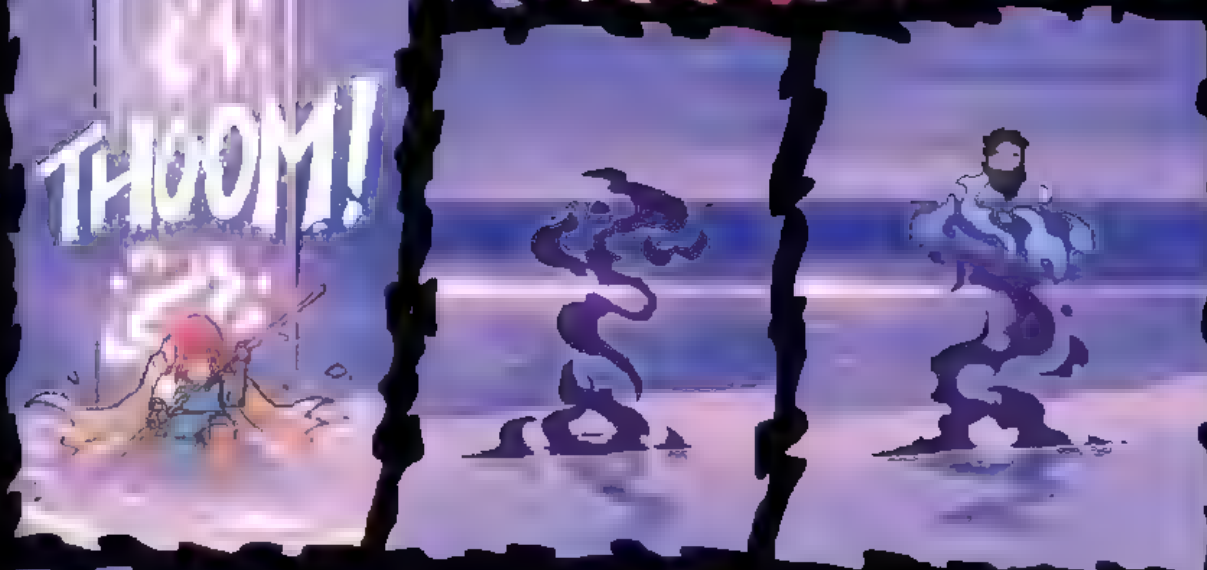
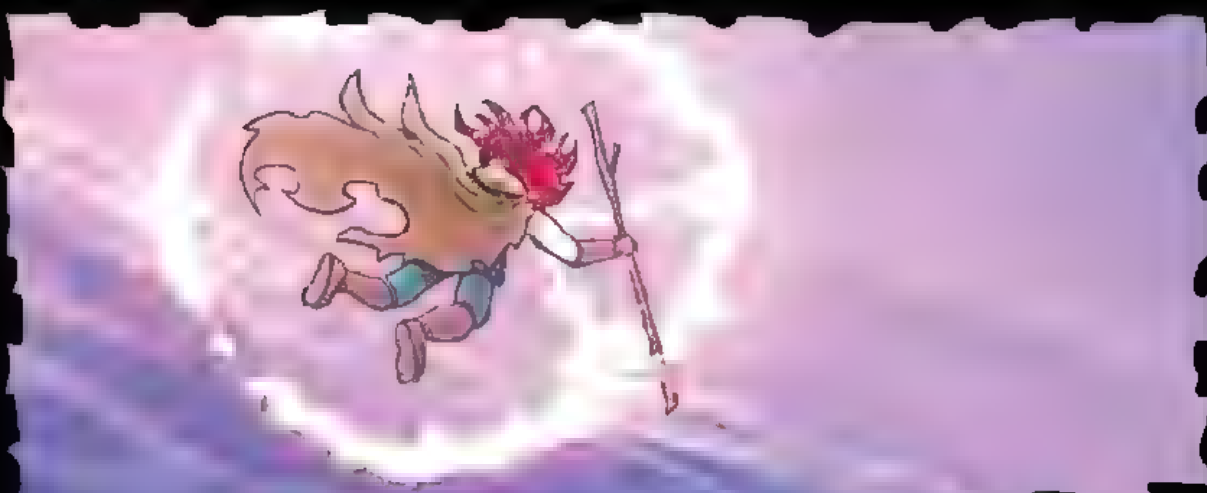
THAT MEANS
DOWN IS UP.

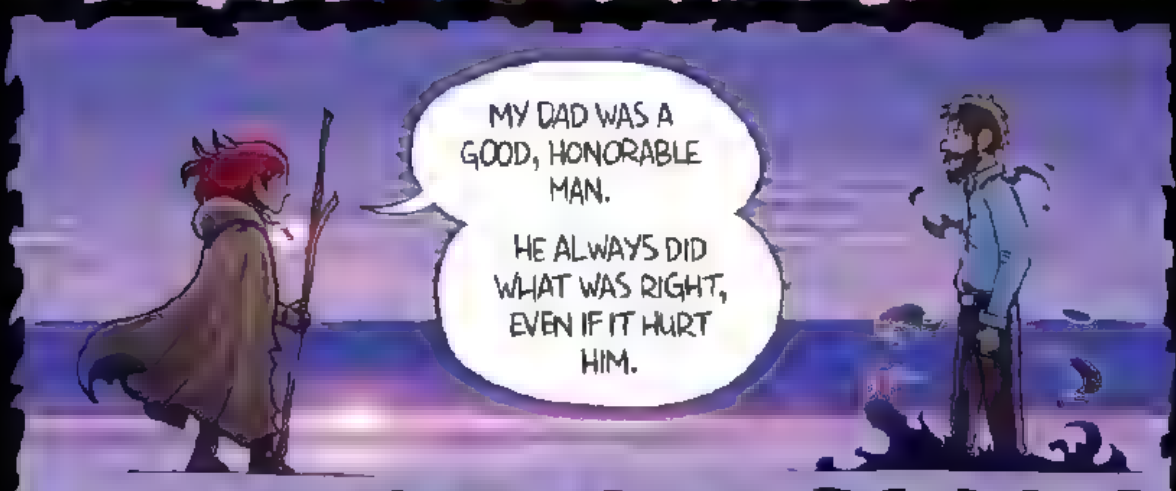
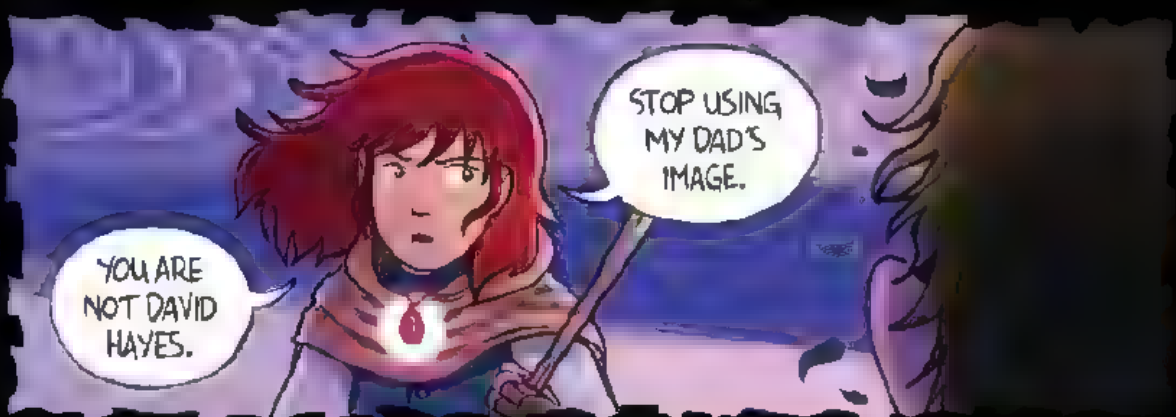



FOOSH!!




SHOOM!







IT IS THE
UNIVERSE THAT
IS MONSTROUS.



AND I SUPPOSE
YOU BELIEVE YOU
CAN FIX IT.



YES.



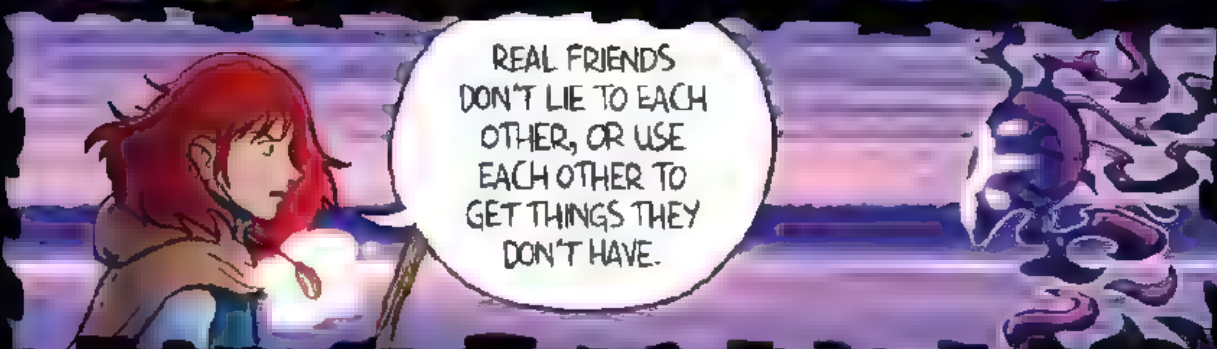
YOU ARE AN
ANCIENT, SPOILED
BRAT.



EMILY,
ARE WE
FRIENDS?



ARE WE
FRIENDS?



REAL FRIENDS
DON'T LIE TO EACH
OTHER, OR USE
EACH OTHER TO
GET THINGS THEY
DON'T HAVE.



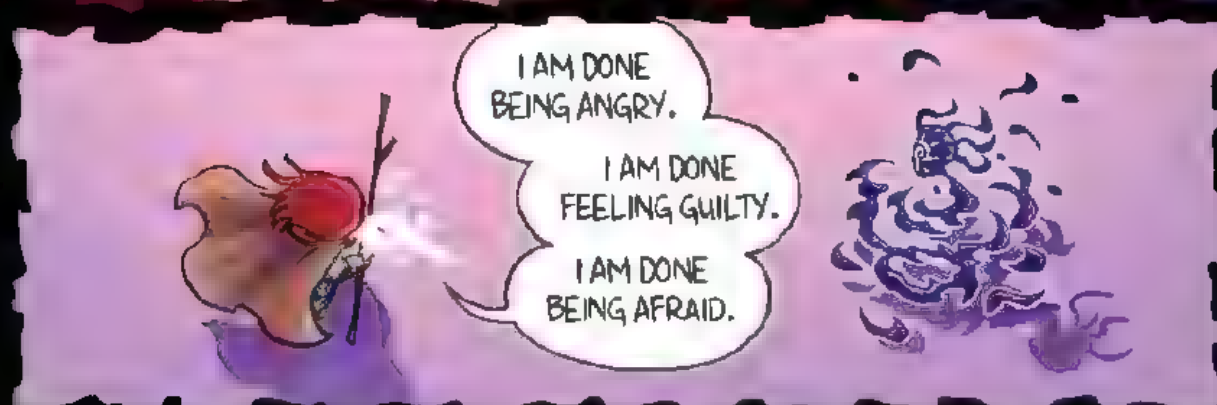
I SEE.

EVERYTHING
I DID FOR YOU
I DID FOR
NOTHING?



I KNOW WHAT
YOU'RE TRYING TO
DO, IKOL.


BUT I WON'T
FALL FOR IT
ANYMORE.



I AM DONE
BEING ANGRY.

I AM DONE
FEELING GUILTY.

I AM DONE
BEING AFRAID.




I HAVE DECIDED
INSTEAD THAT I
MUST FORGIVE
YOU.

IKOL,
I FORGIVE
YOU.

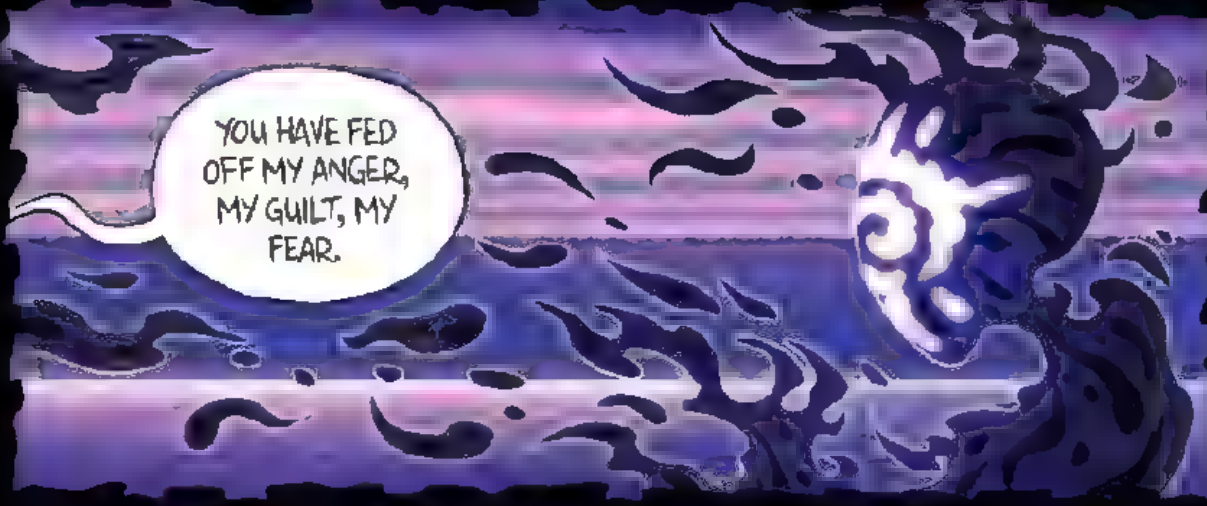


FORGIVE
ME?


BUT
WHY?



BECAUSE I
NEED TO FORGIVE
MYSELF.




YOU HAVE FED
OFF MY ANGER,
MY GUILT, MY
FEAR.



YOU ARE THE
RESULT OF ALL
THESE THINGS.

AND I AM
GOING TO TAKE
THEM BACK NOW.



THE TIME FOR
GAMES IS OVER,
IKOL.

IT IS TIME
FOR YOU TO
SLEEP.

BUT I WANT TO
KEEP PLAYING,
EMILY.

I DO NOT
WANT TO
SLEEP.



YOU'VE DONE
ENOUGH.

BUT YOU SAY
I'VE CREATED
A MESS.

I WANT TO
HELP YOU
CLEAN IT UP.

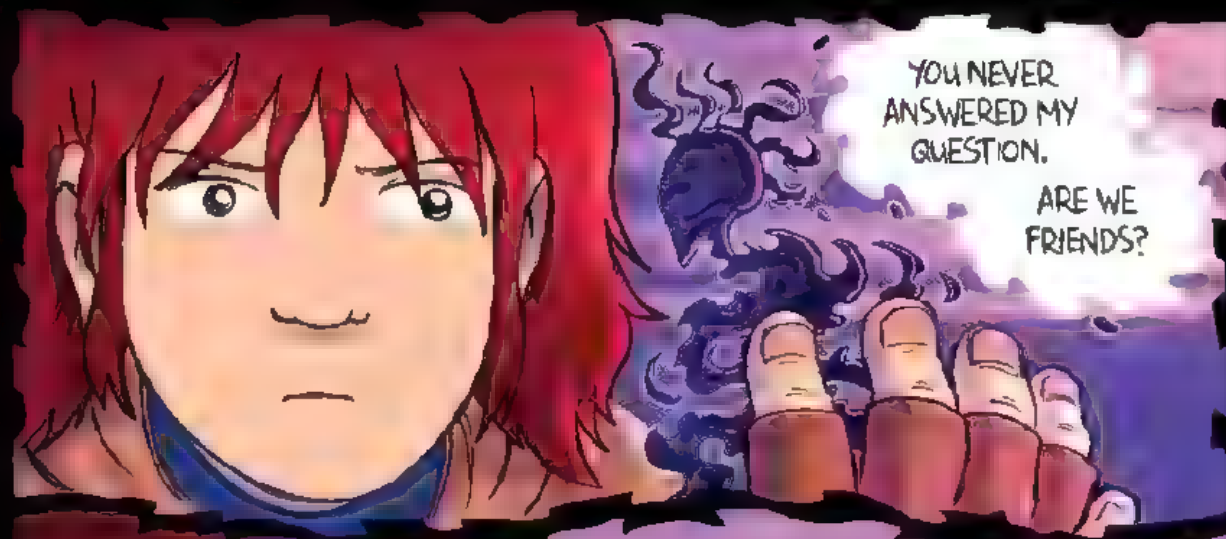
I WANT
TO BE
NEEDED.

THE BEST
WAY TO HELP
IS FOR YOU TO
GO AWAY
NOW.

BUT I CAN
DO SO MUCH.

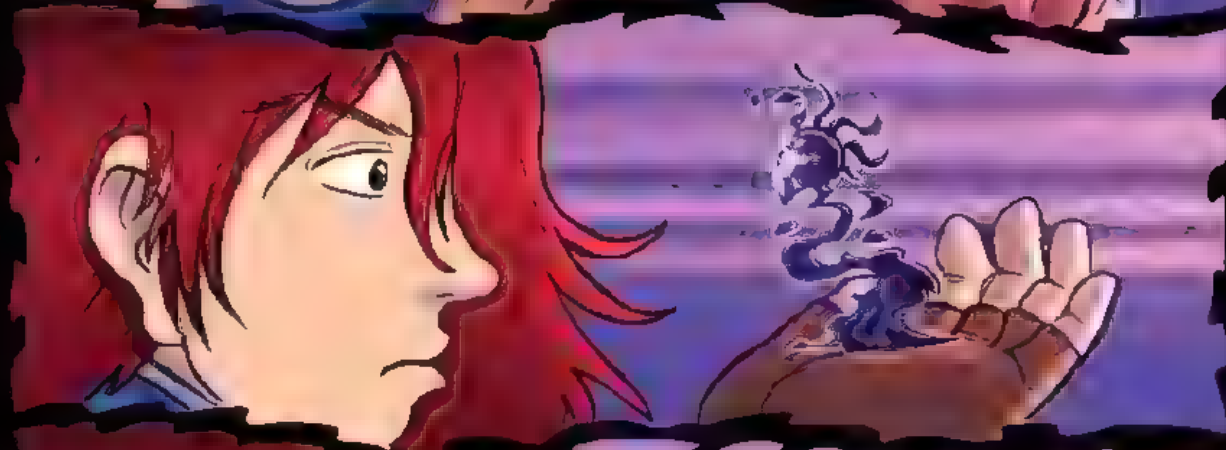
I KNOW YOU
CAN, BUT IT IS
TIME FOR YOU
TO SLEEP.

BUT, EMILY,
I DON'T WANT
TO SLEEP.

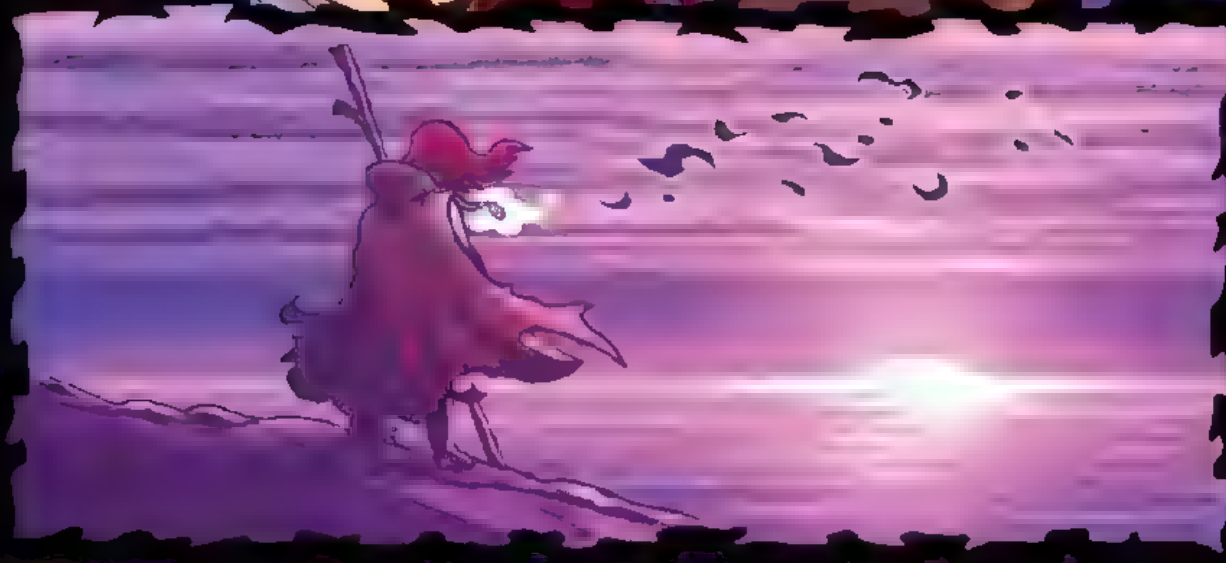


YOU NEVER
ANSWERED MY
QUESTION.

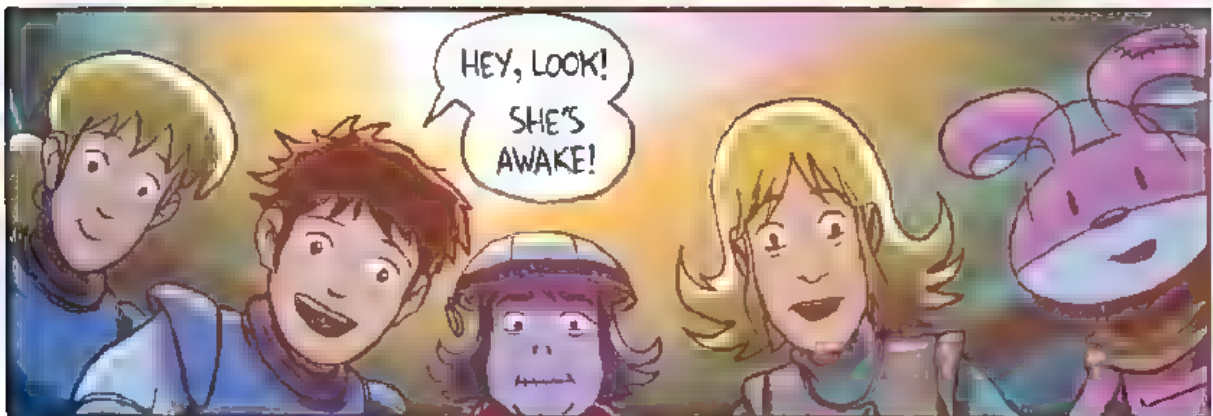
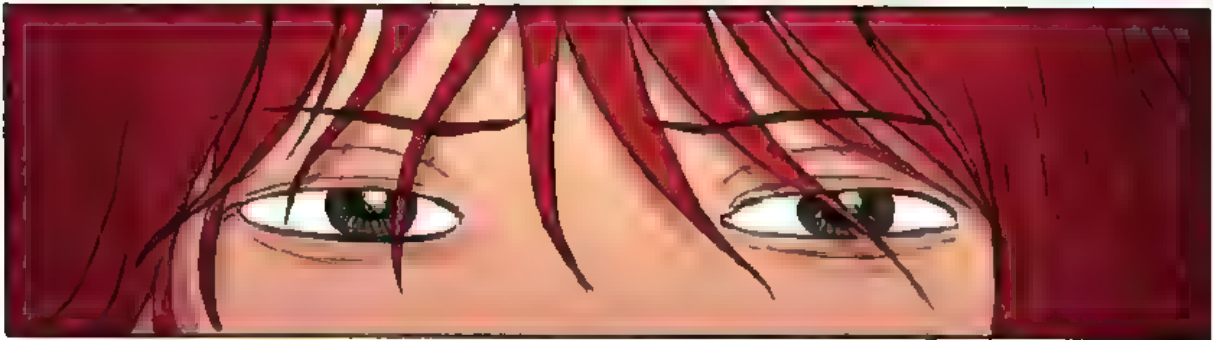
ARE WE
FRIENDS?

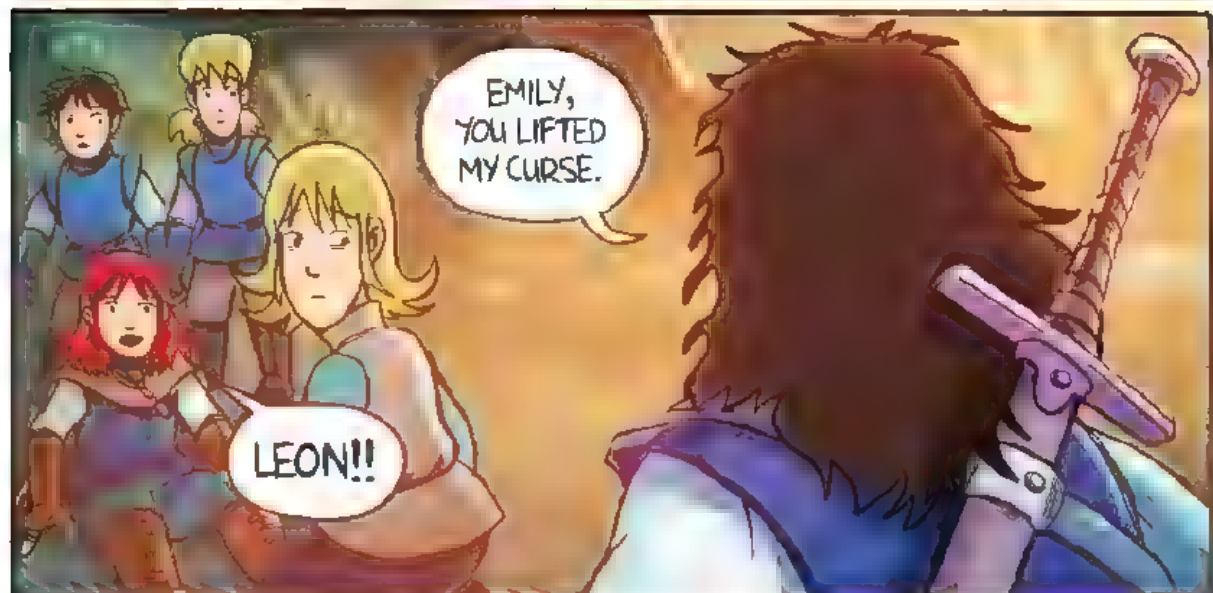
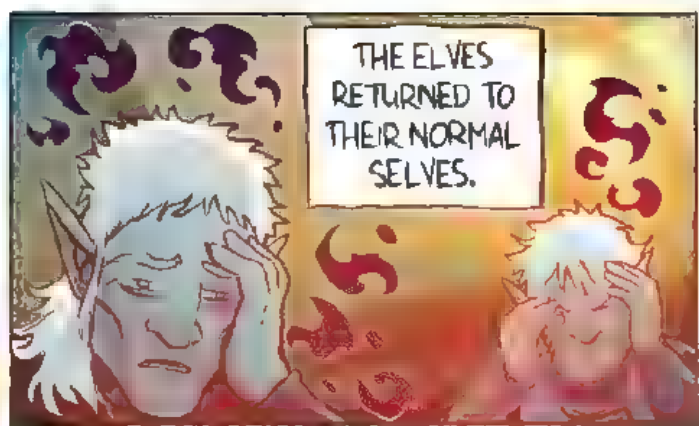



PHUUUUU-





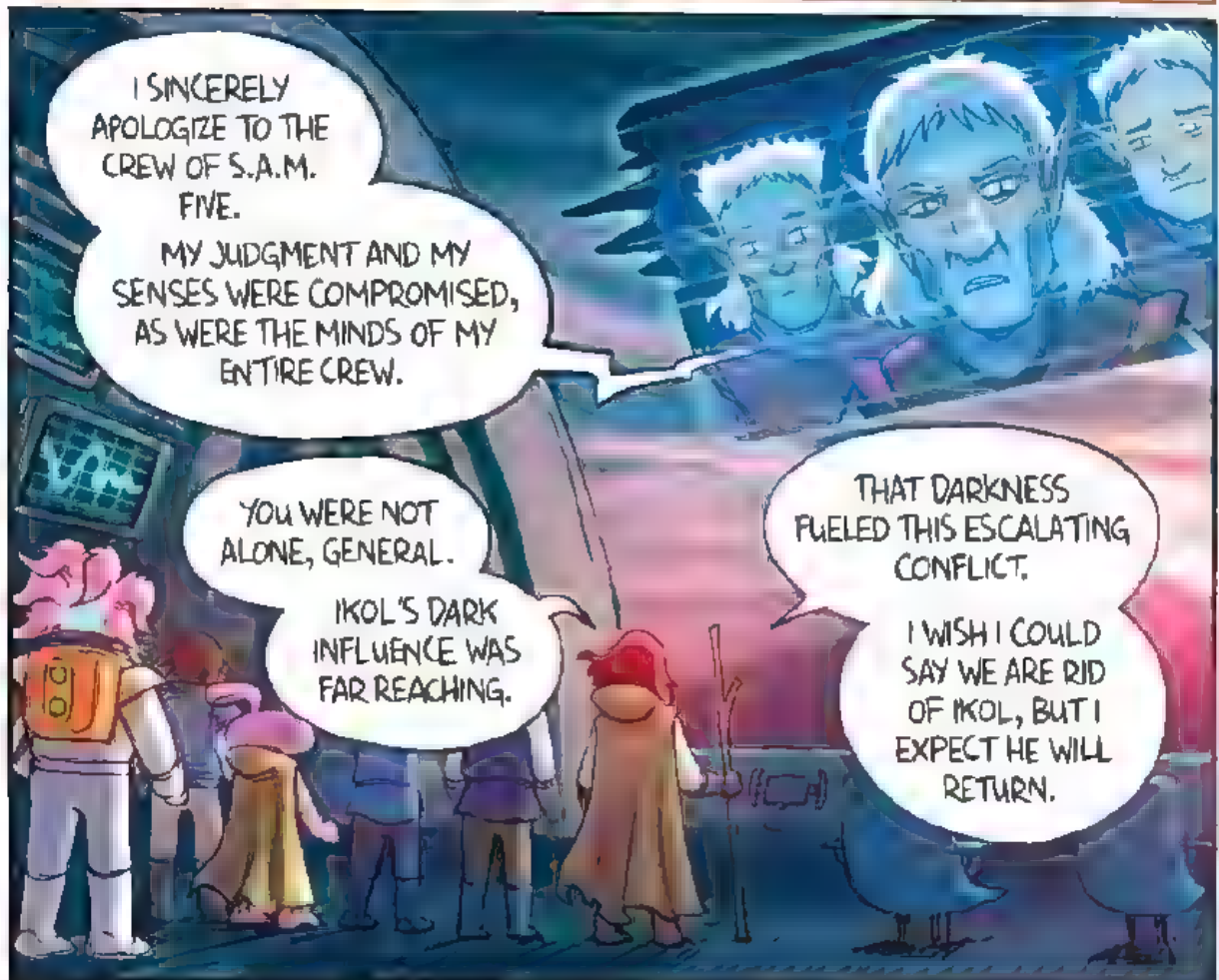
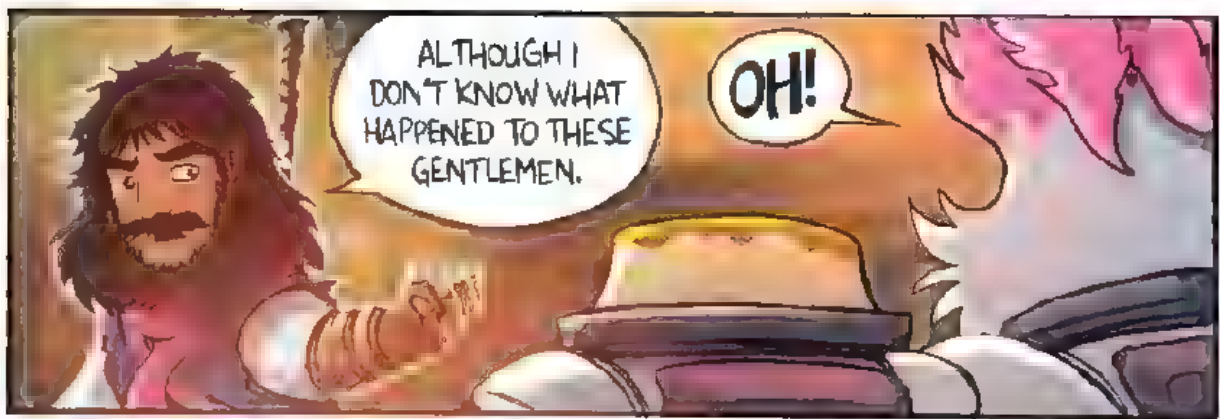


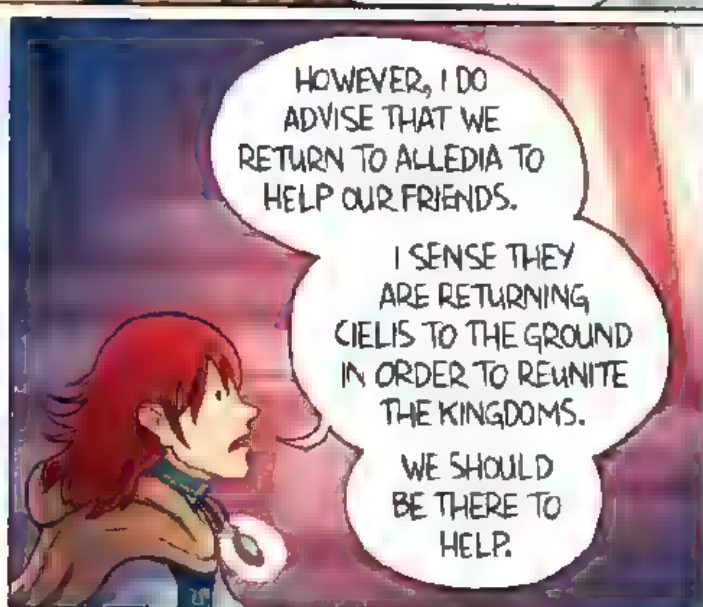
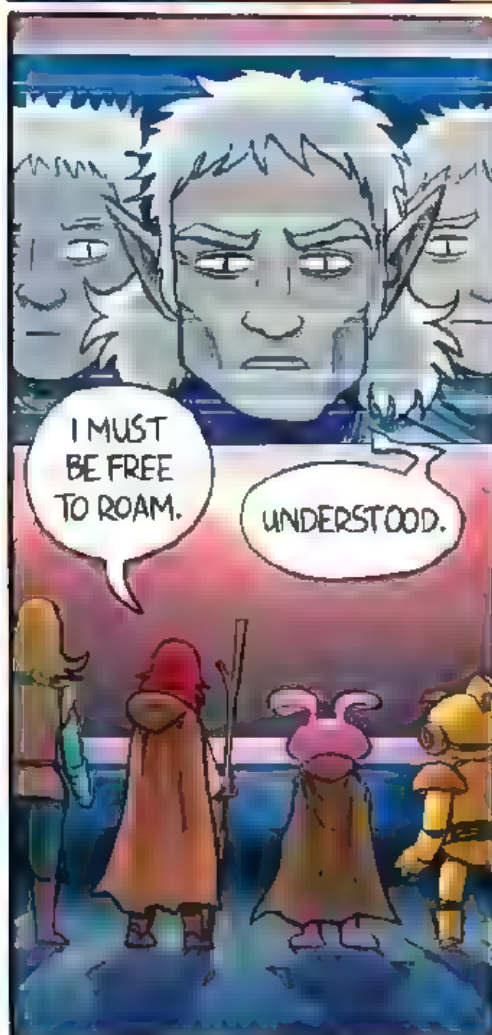
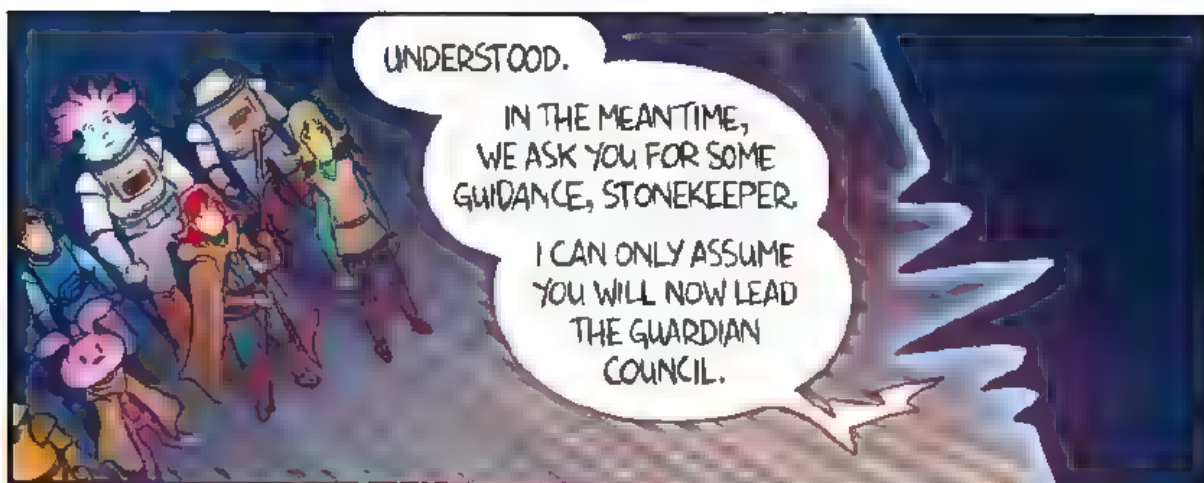




THIS MUST BE
HAPPENING IN
ALLEDIA, TOO.

THE CURSED ARE
RETURNING TO THEIR
ORIGINAL SELVES.







OUR FUEL IS
DEPLETED AND
THE VEHICLES
ARE ALL IN BAD
SHAPE.

I DON'T
KNOW HOW
WE CAN FLY
BACK.



NAVIN, YOU AND
THE PILOTS WORRY
ABOUT GETTING THE
VEHICLES READY.

I CAN PROVIDE
THE POWER--



WITH THE
HELP OF SOME
NEW FRIENDS.



CALA AND
CORA--

I WILL NEED
YOUR HELP ONE
LAST TIME.

OF COURSE,
EMILY.

YOU WILL
ALWAYS HAVE
OUR SUPPORT.

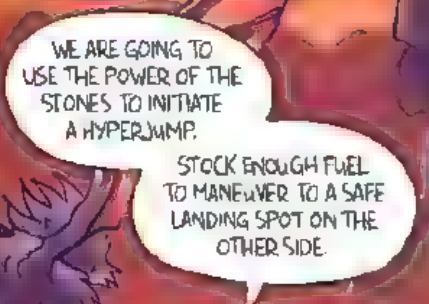
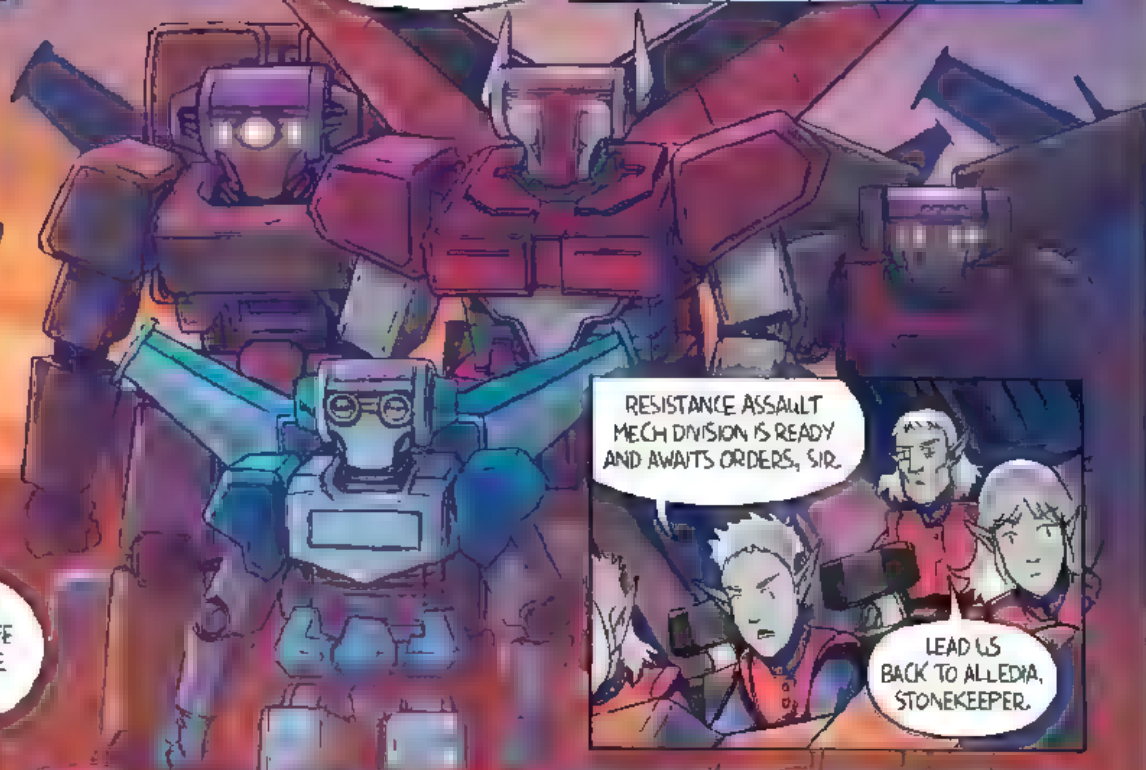
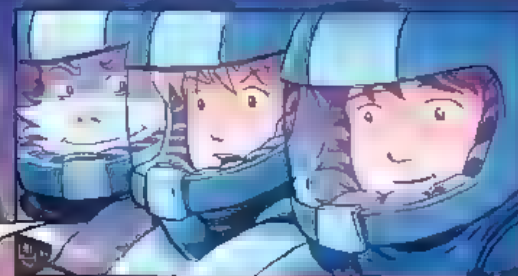
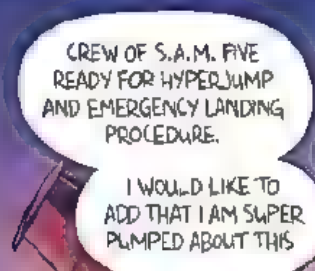
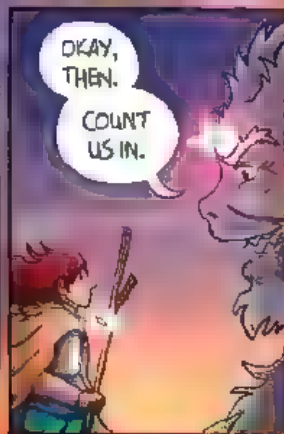
WHAT CAN
WE HELP YOU
WITH?

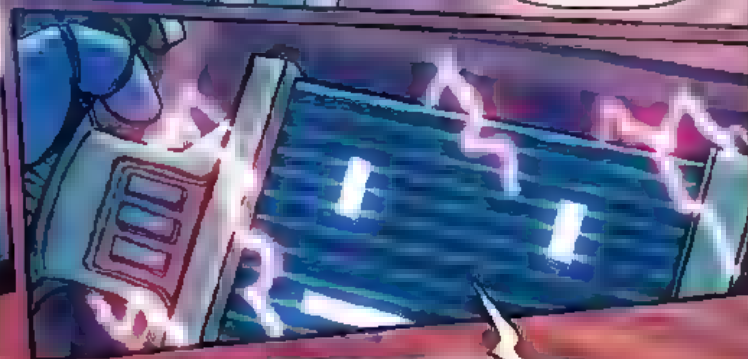
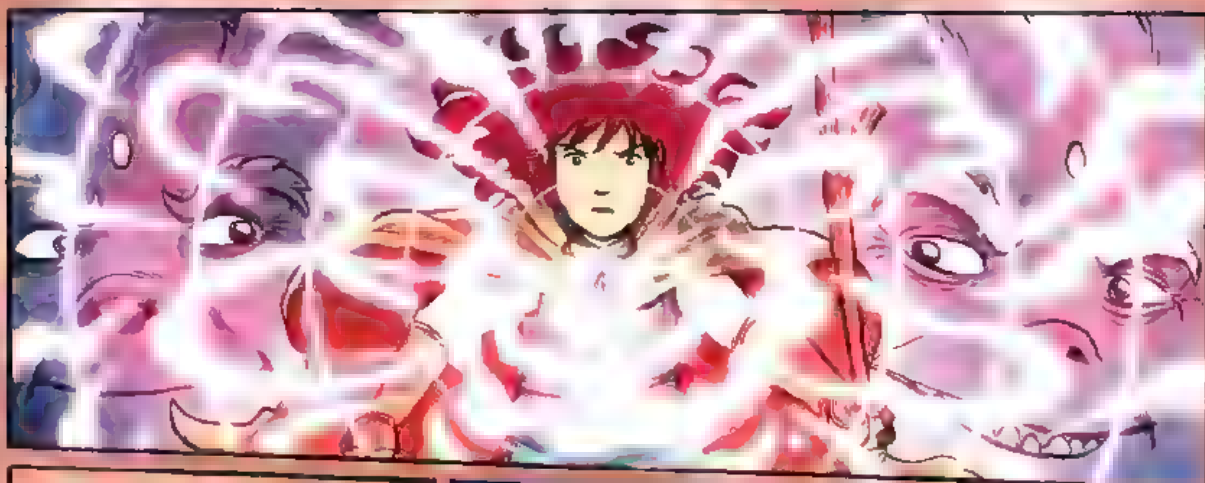


I NEED YOU BOTH TO
HELP ME TRANSPORT
THIS ARMY BACK TO
ALLEDIA SAFELY.

YES.

THE ENTIRE
ARMY?
VEHICLES AND
EVERYTHING?

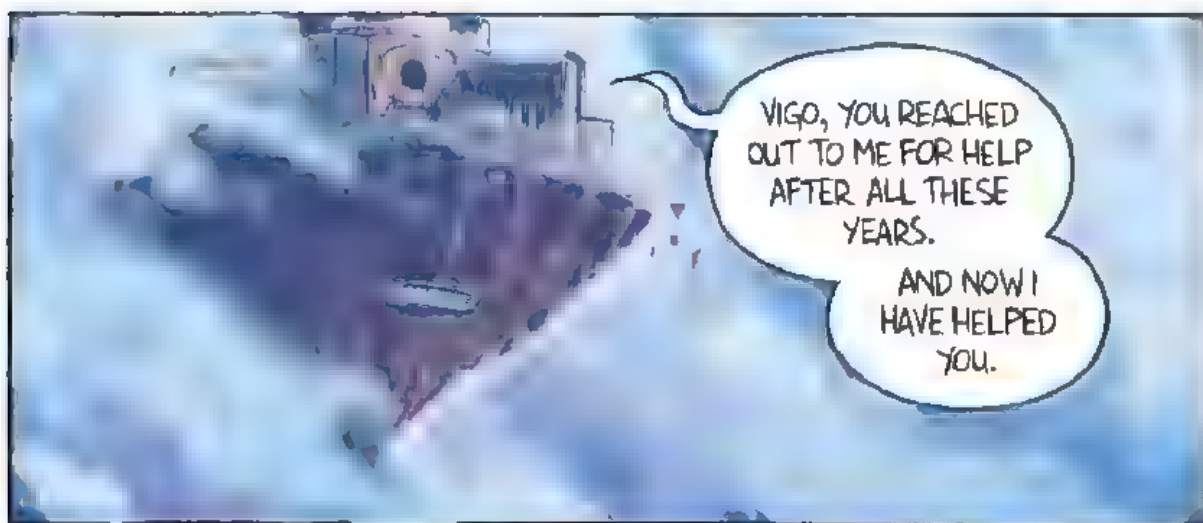




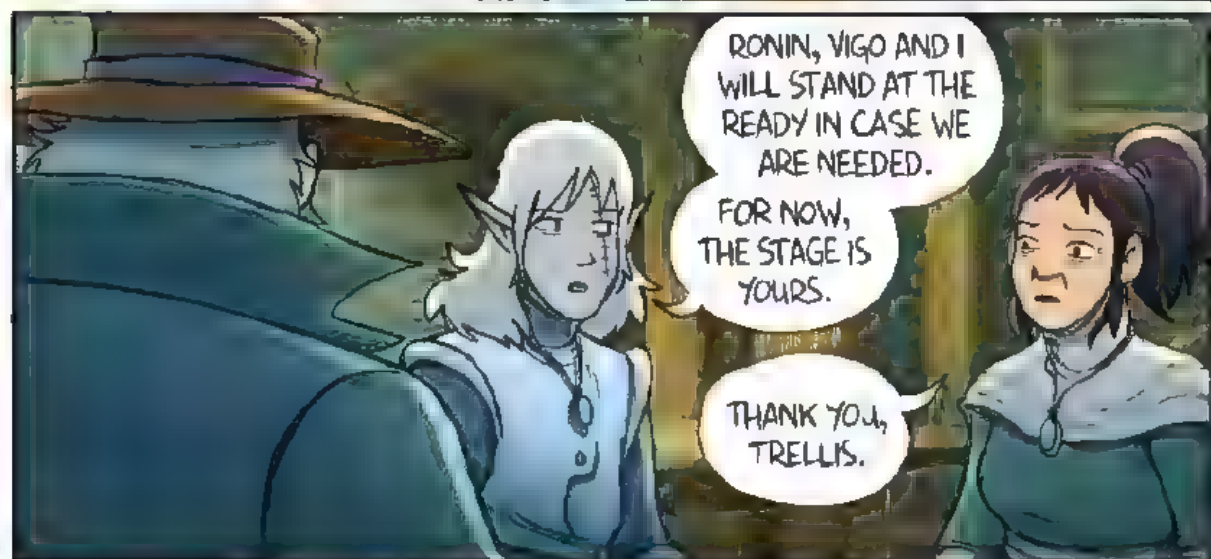
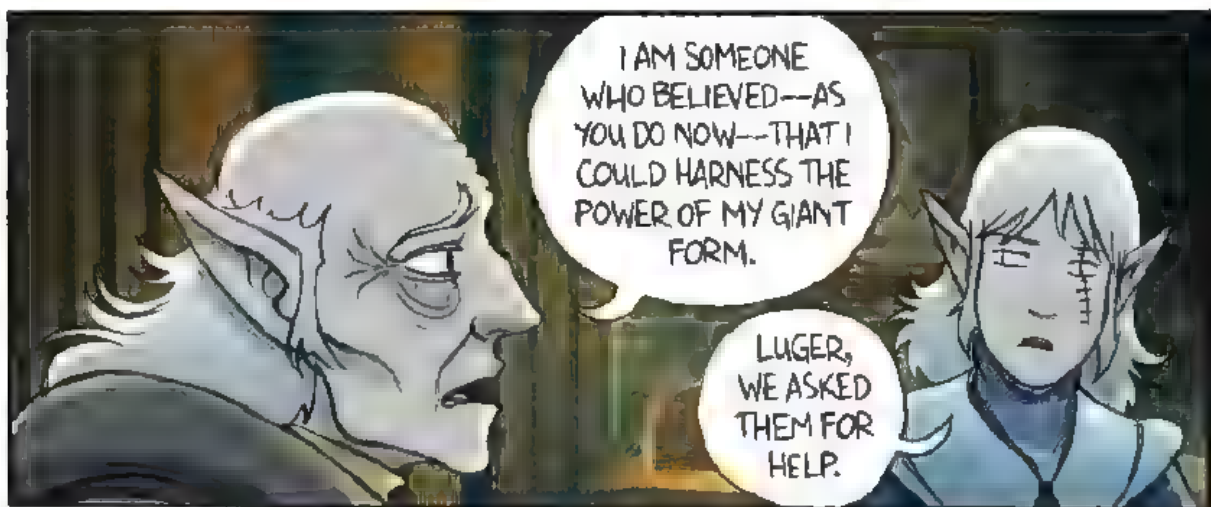
IT APPEARS THE
STONEKEEPERS ARE
GENERATING ENOUGH
FORCE TO PROPEL
US ALL.

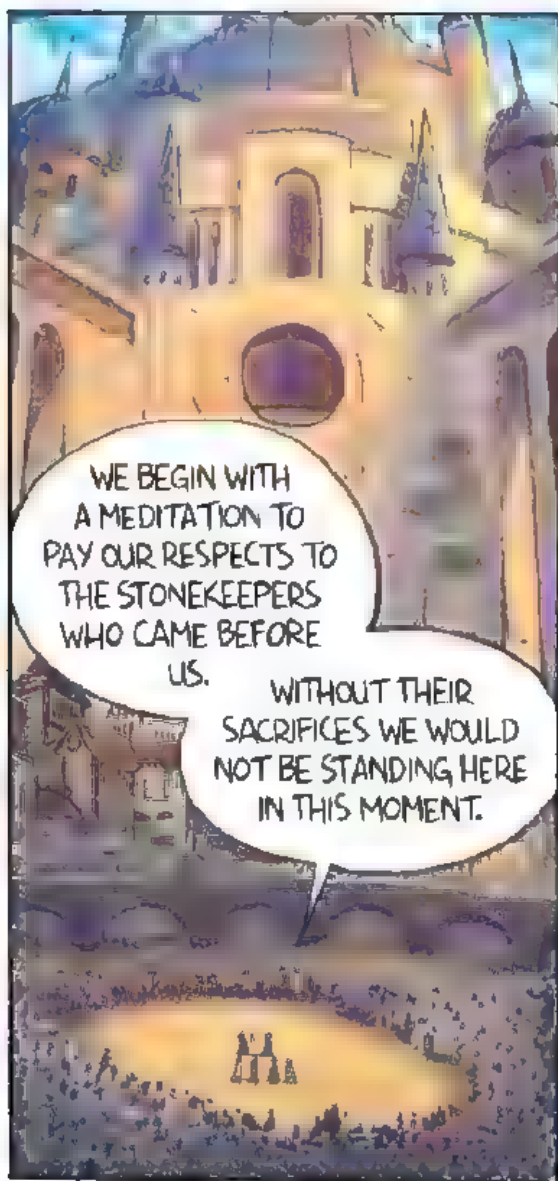
I RECOMMEND FASTENING
YOUR SEAT BELTS AND
HOLDING ON TIGHT.









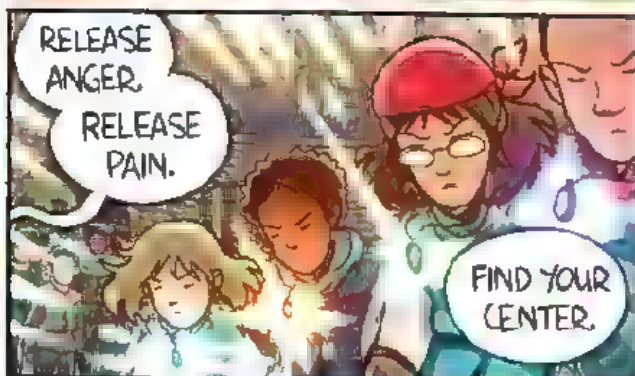


WE BEGIN WITH
A MEDITATION TO
PAY OUR RESPECTS TO
THE STONEKEEPERS
WHO CAME BEFORE
US.

WITHOUT THEIR
SACRIFICES WE WOULD
NOT BE STANDING HERE
IN THIS MOMENT.

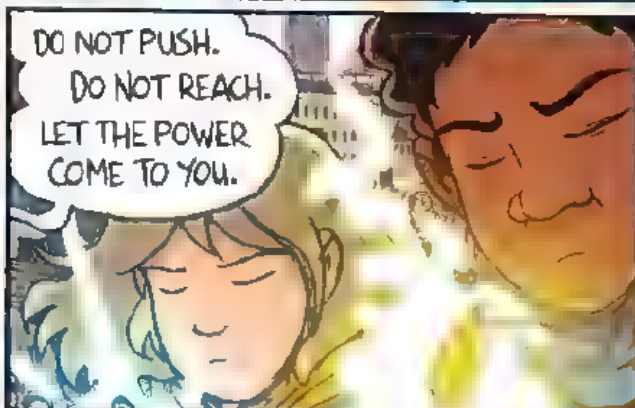


WITHOUT THEIR
KNOWLEDGE, WE
WOULD NOT KNOW
OUR PATH.
CLOSE YOUR
EYES AND BEGIN
TO FOCUS.



RELEASE
ANGER.
RELEASE
PAIN.

FIND YOUR
CENTER.



DO NOT PUSH.
DO NOT REACH.
LET THE POWER
COME TO YOU.



CATCH YOUR
POWER LIKE A
WIND IN YOUR
SAIL.



NGH.

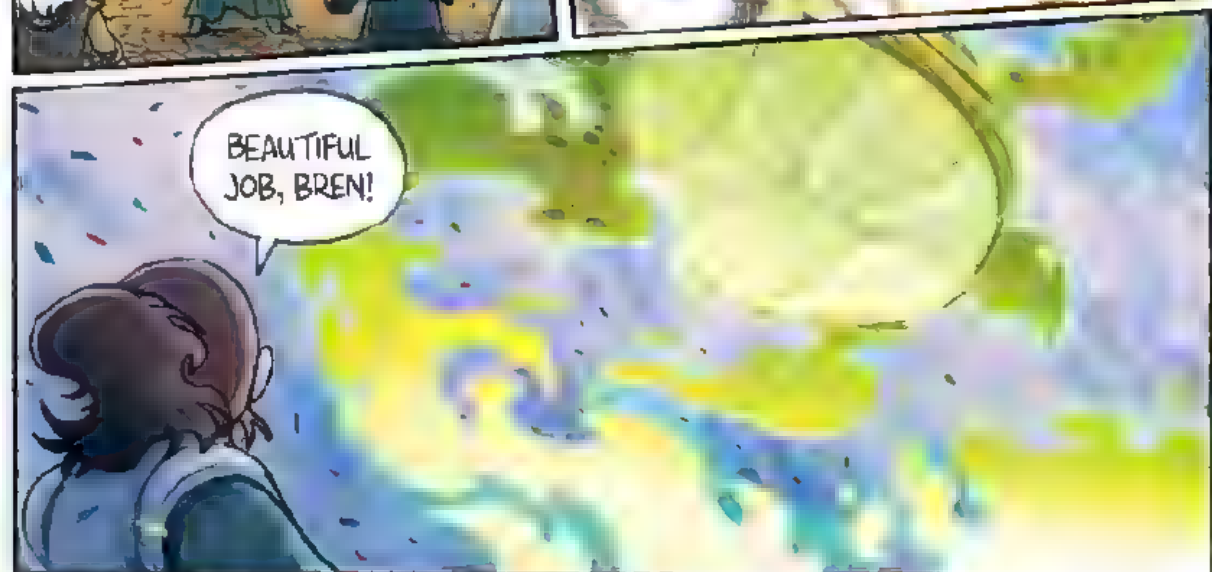
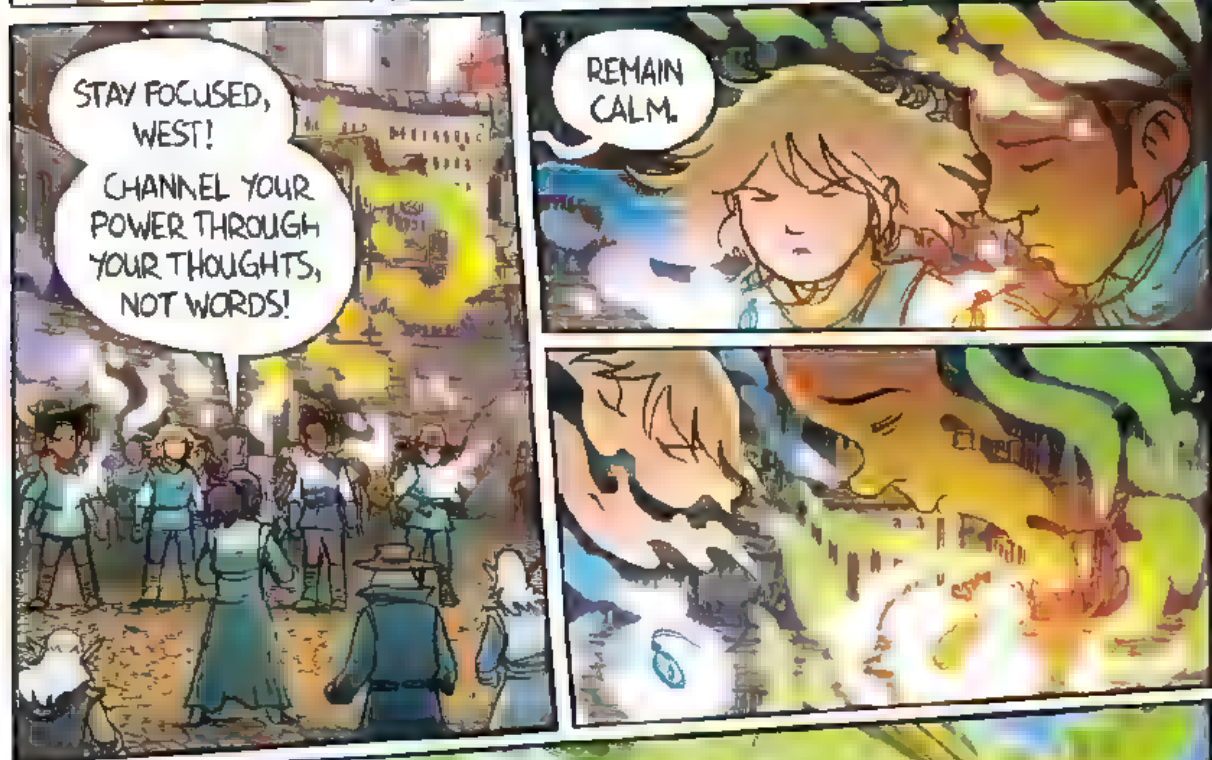
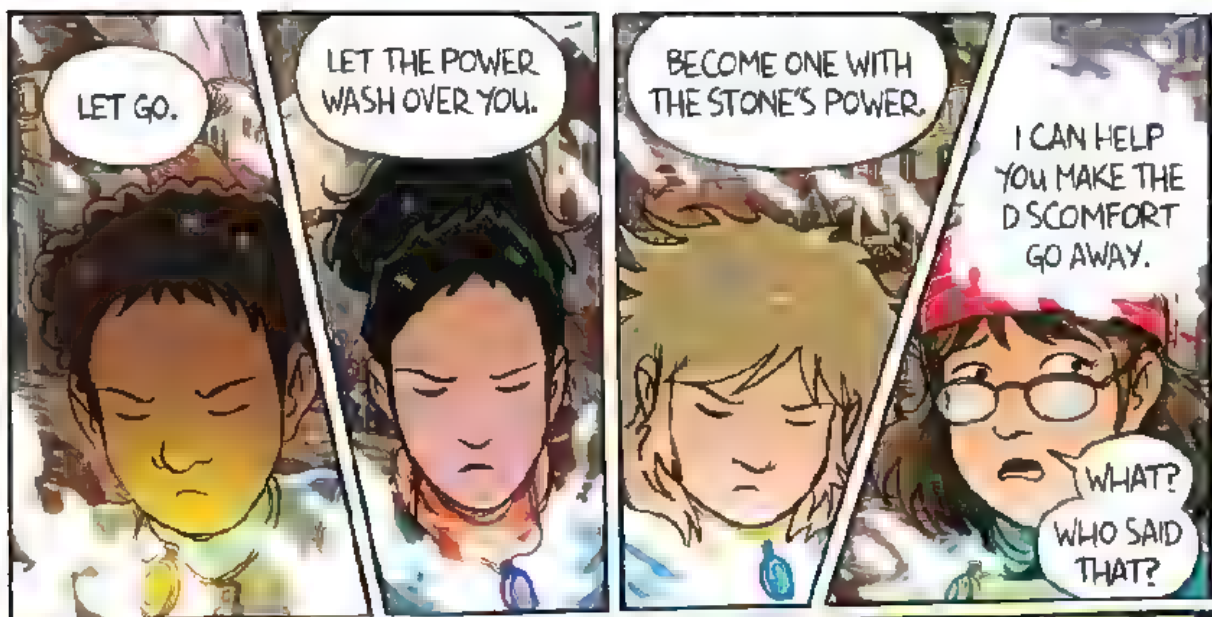
YOU MUST TRUST
EACH OTHER. YOU
MUST KNOW THAT
OTHERS ARE AT
YOUR SIDE.

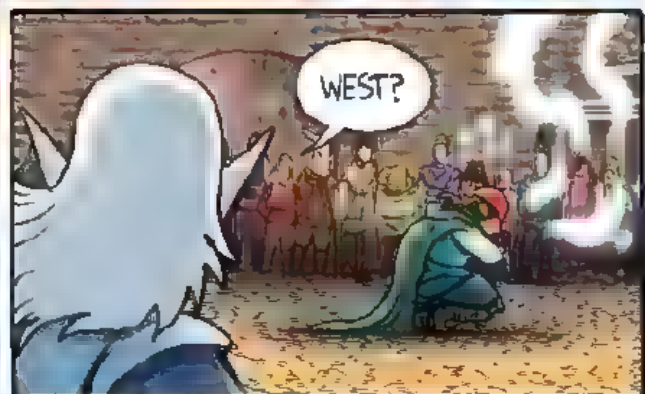
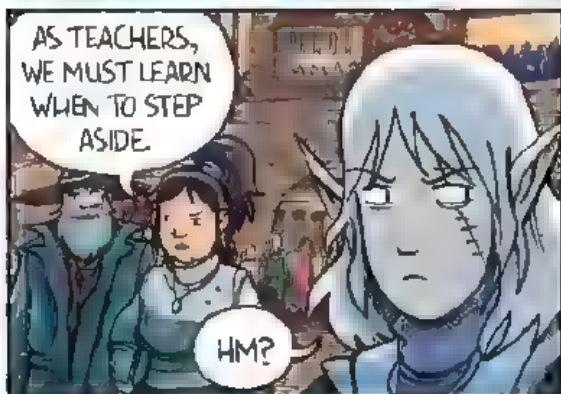
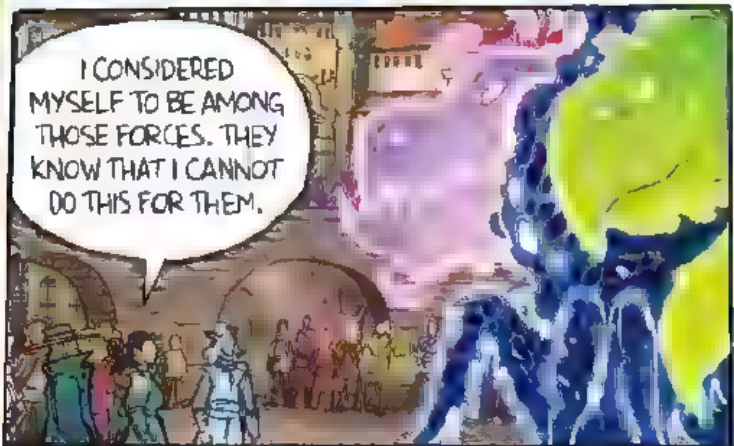
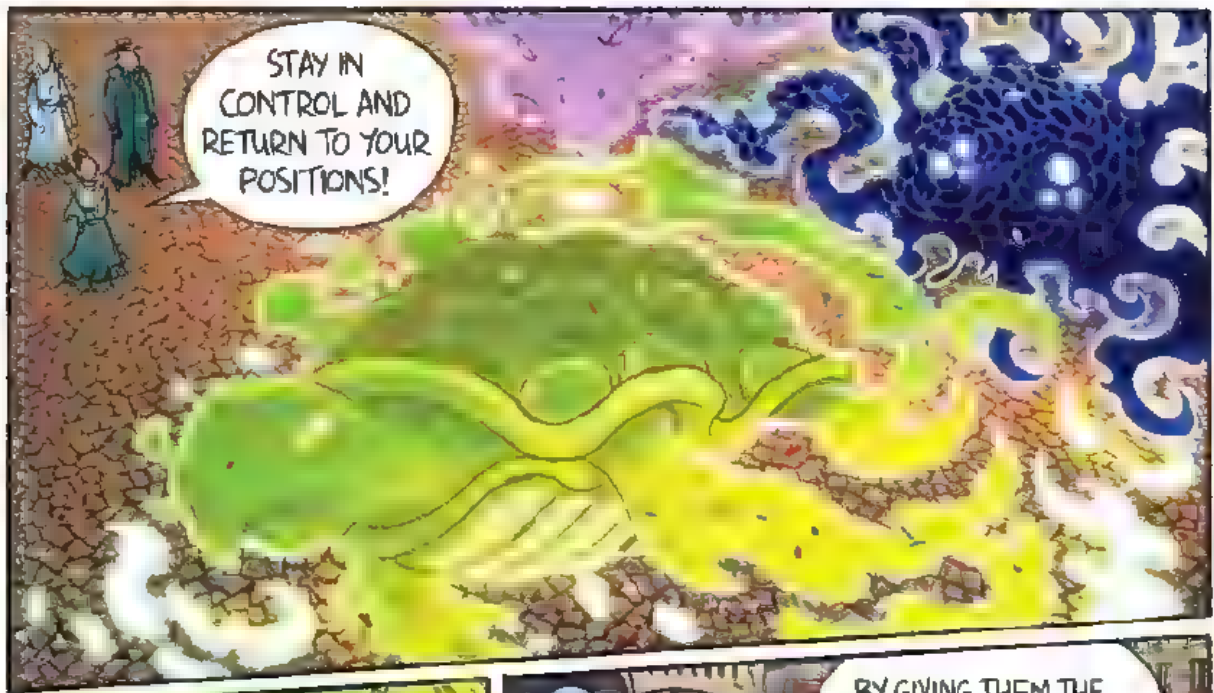


WE ARE MASTERS OF
DESTINY FOR ONLY
A MOMENT,
SO WE MUST BE
WILLING TO LET IT
PASS THROUGH US.

PREPARE TO
LET GO.

SOMETHING
IS WRONG.





THE OTHERS DO NOT
APPRECIATE YOUR TALENT.
THEY DO NOT SEE YOUR
CONTRIBUTIONS.

NOT LIKE I
DO, WESTLEY.

I SEE
YOU.

WE CAN SHOW THEM
WHAT YOU ARE CAPABLE
OF, AND THEY WILL
NEVER UNDERESTIMATE
YOU AGAIN!

WEST!

DO NOT PUSH
YOURSELF OVER
THE EDGE!

STAND DOWN
AND REGROUP!

GIVE IN TO
THE STONE'S
POWER.

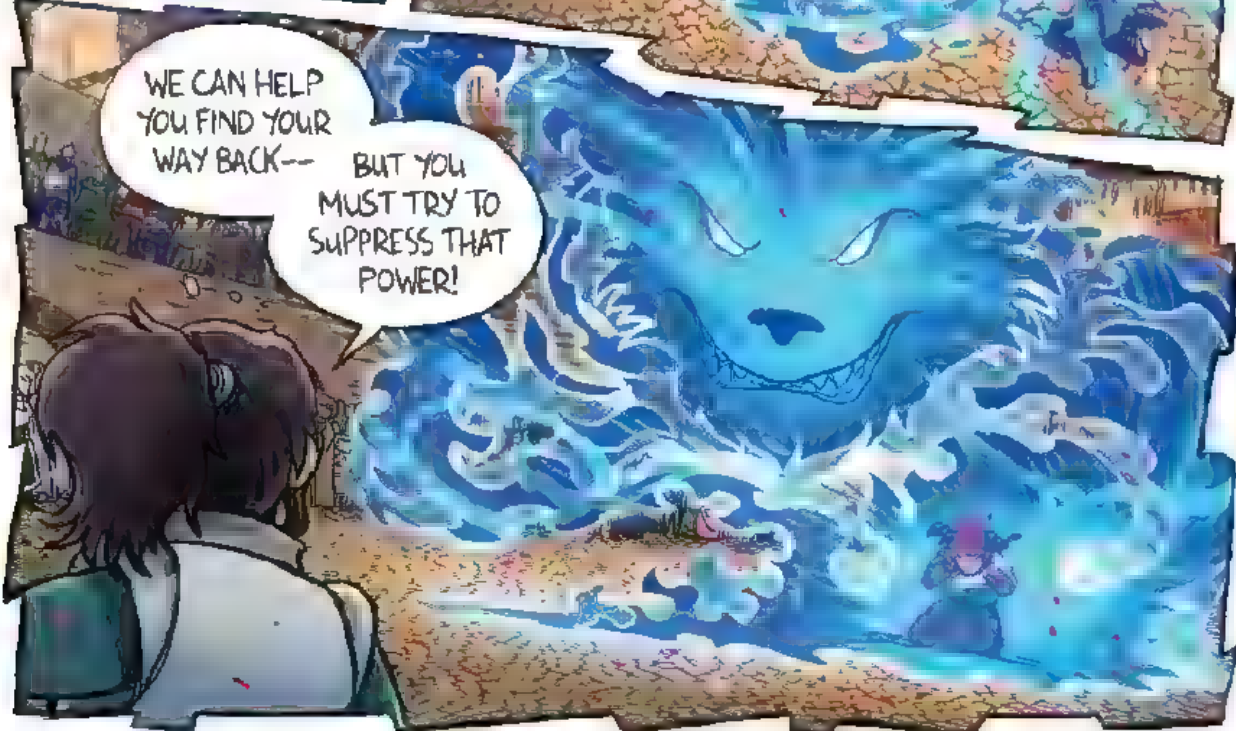
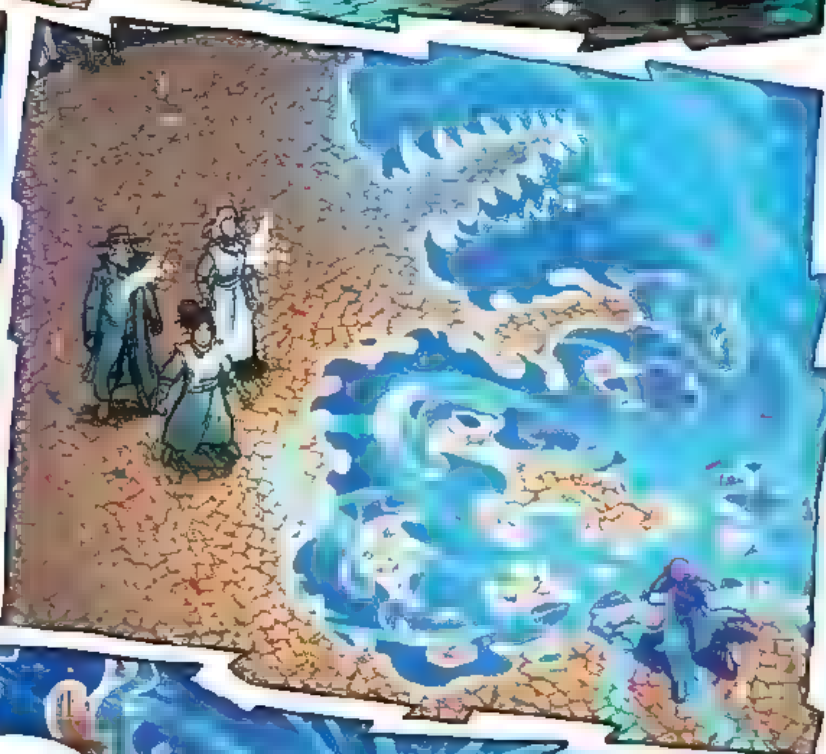
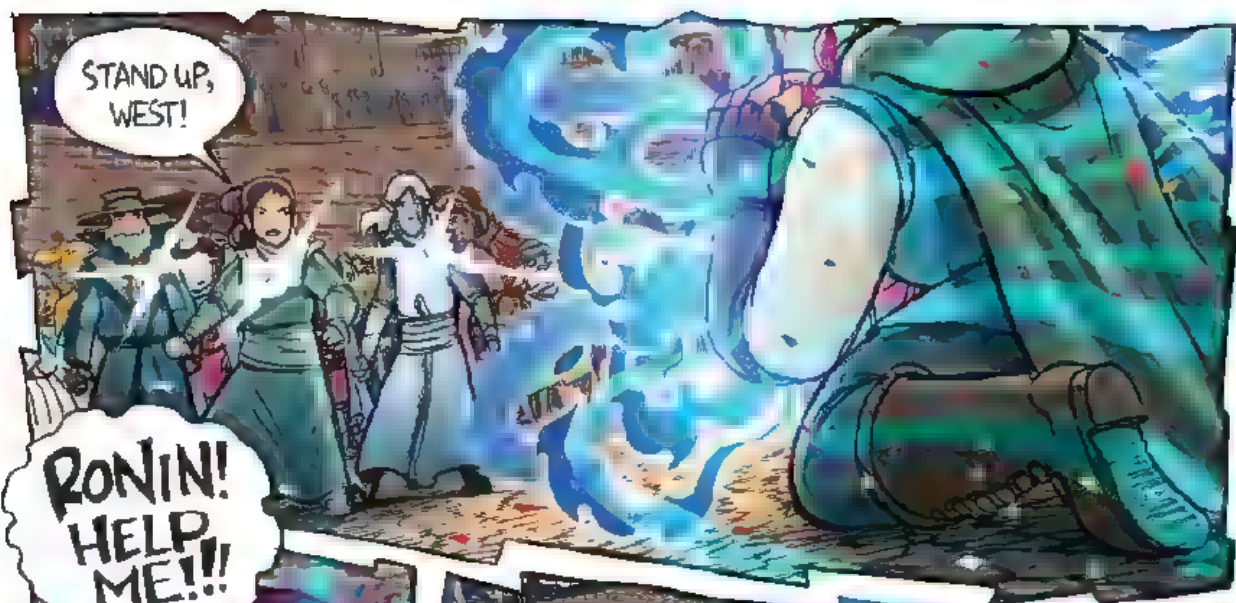
THE OTHERS
DO NOT CARE
ABOUT YOU---

NOT LIKE
I DO.

GIVE ME
CONTROL.

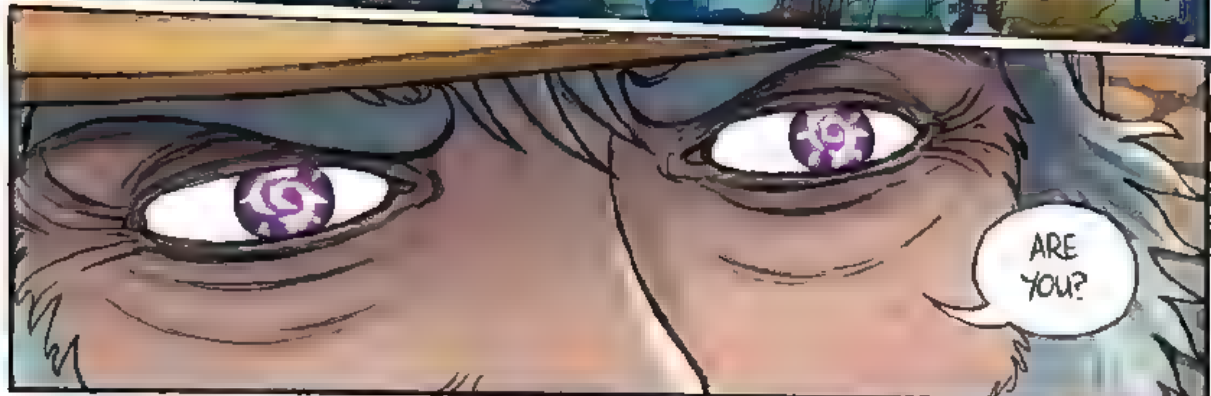
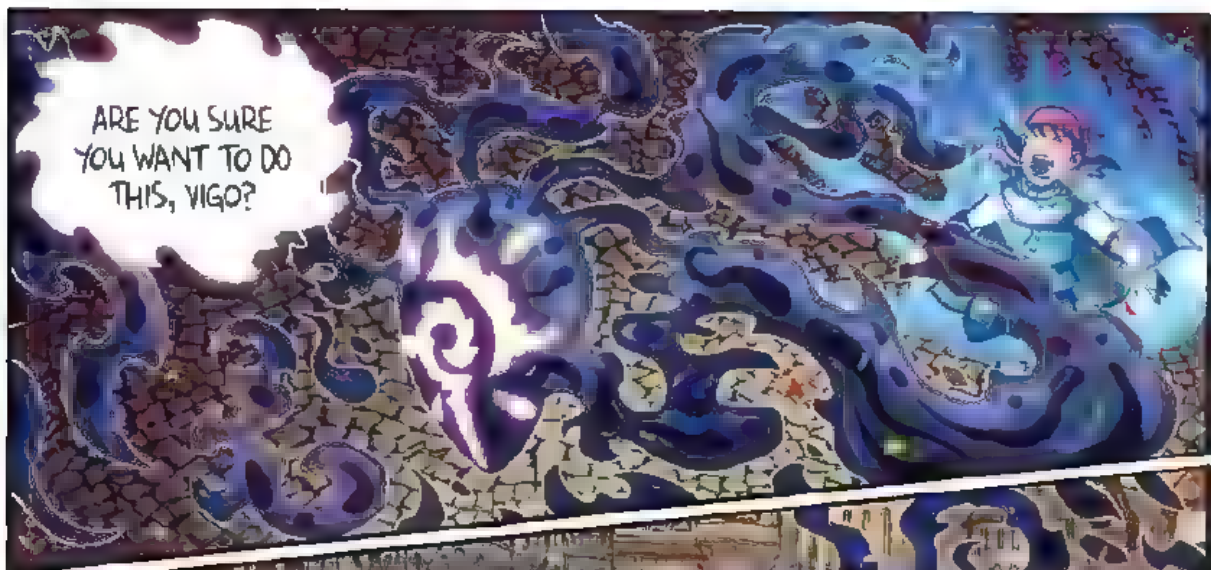
NO-- NO--

HELP
ME!!!

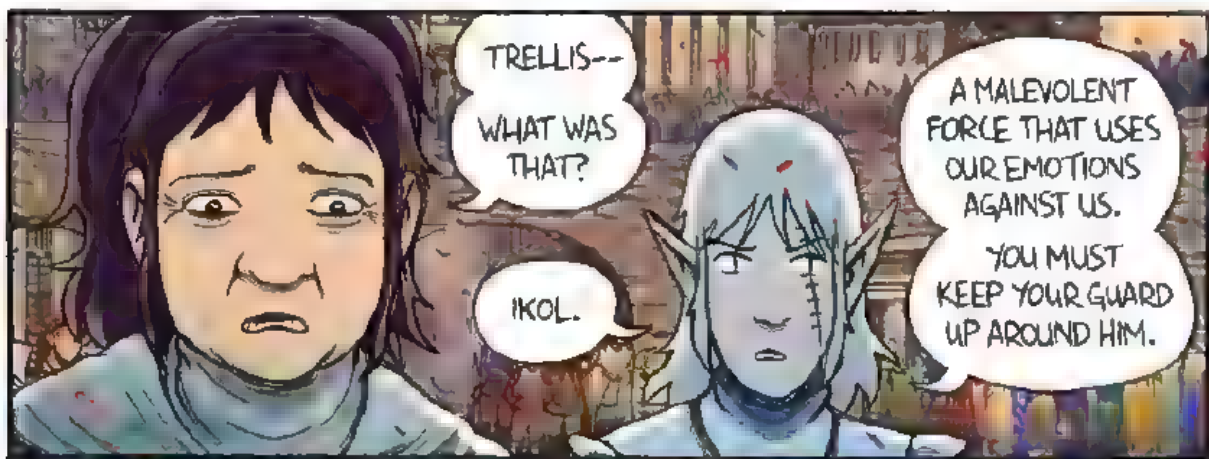












TRELLIS--
WHAT WAS
THAT?

IKOL.

A MALEVOLENT
FORCE THAT USES
OUR EMOTIONS
AGAINST US.
YOU MUST
KEEP YOUR GUARD
UP AROUND HIM.

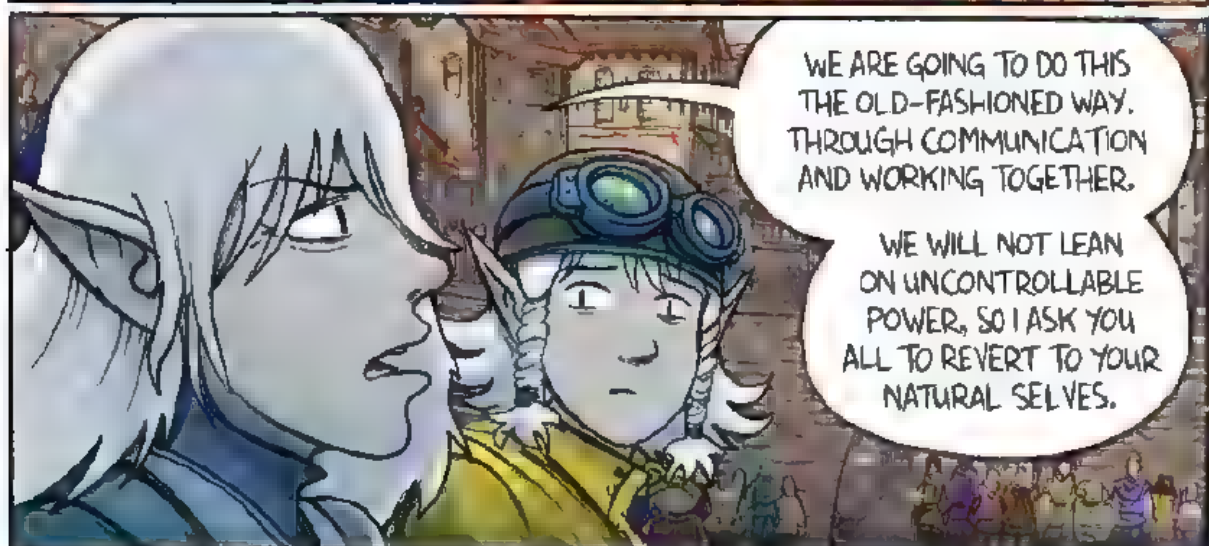


VIGO HAS GIVEN
HIS LIFE TO BUY
US TIME.

WE MUST
NOT WASTE
IT.

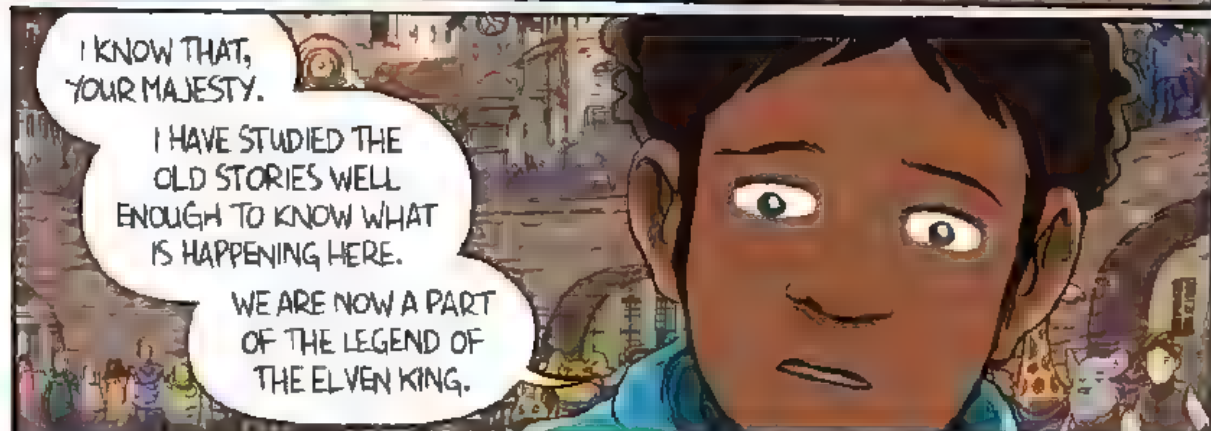
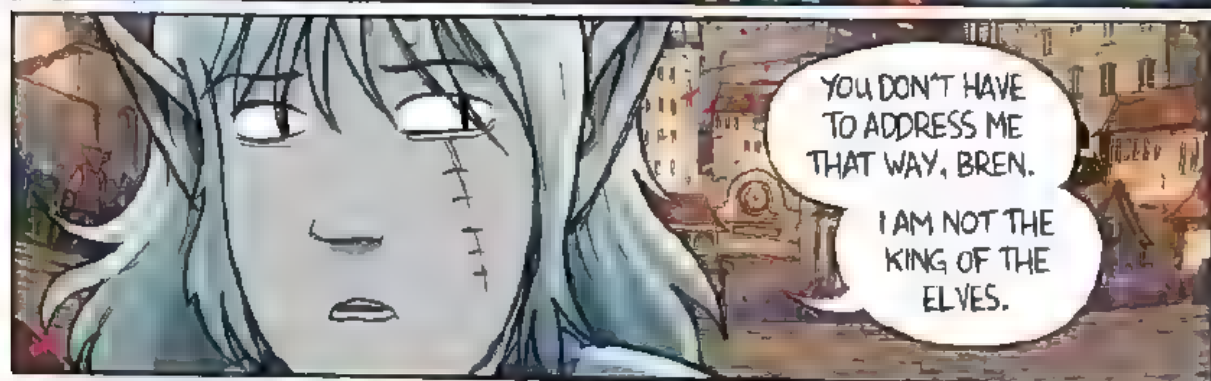
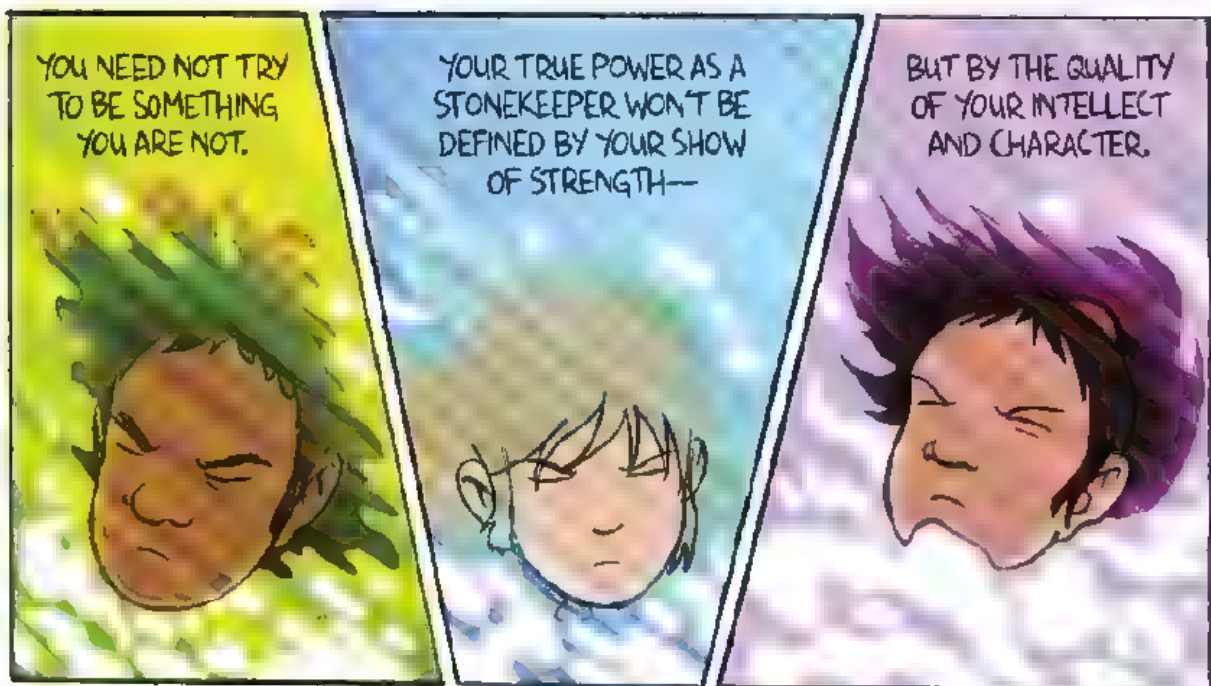
I WILL GUIDE
CIELIS BACK TO ITS
PROPER LOCATION,
BUT I WILL NEED YOUR
HELP AND THE HELP
OF EVERYONE HERE
IN THE CITY.

EVERY CITIZEN,
INCLUDING THE
CHILDREN, WILL HELP
US LAND THE CITY
SAFELY.



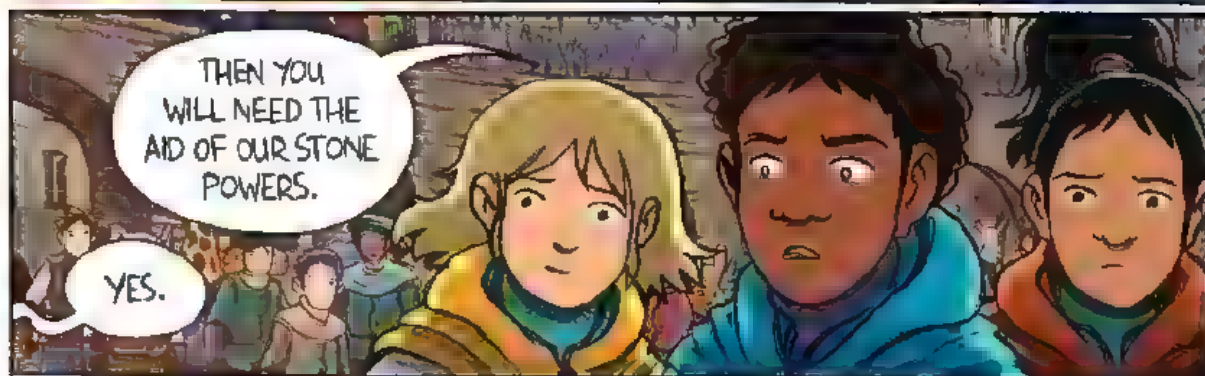
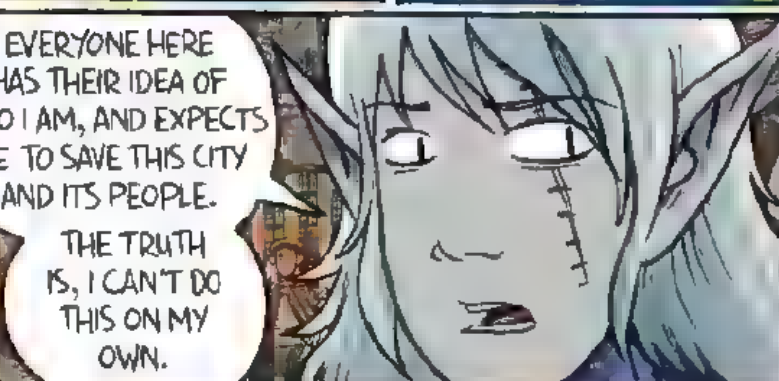
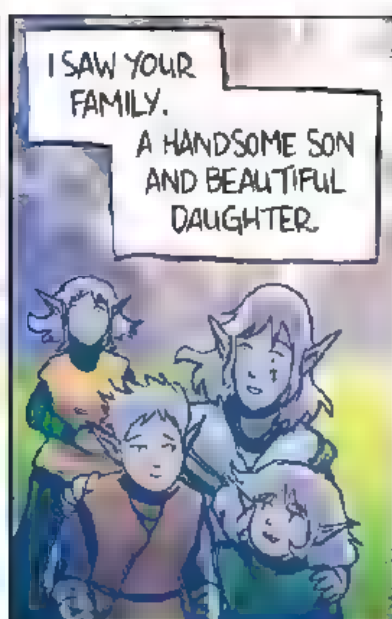
WE ARE GOING TO DO THIS
THE OLD-FASHIONED WAY.
THROUGH COMMUNICATION
AND WORKING TOGETHER.

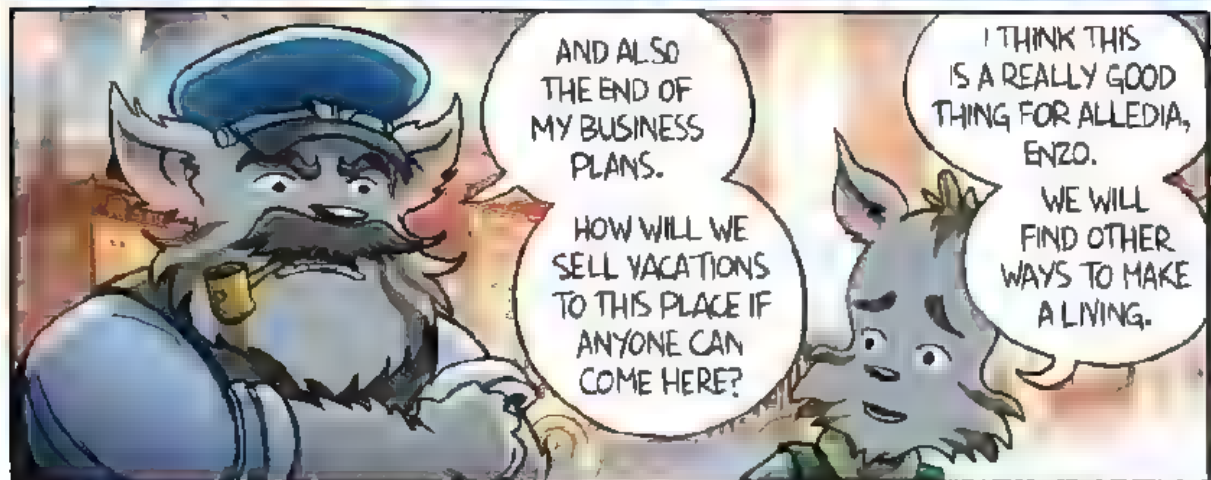
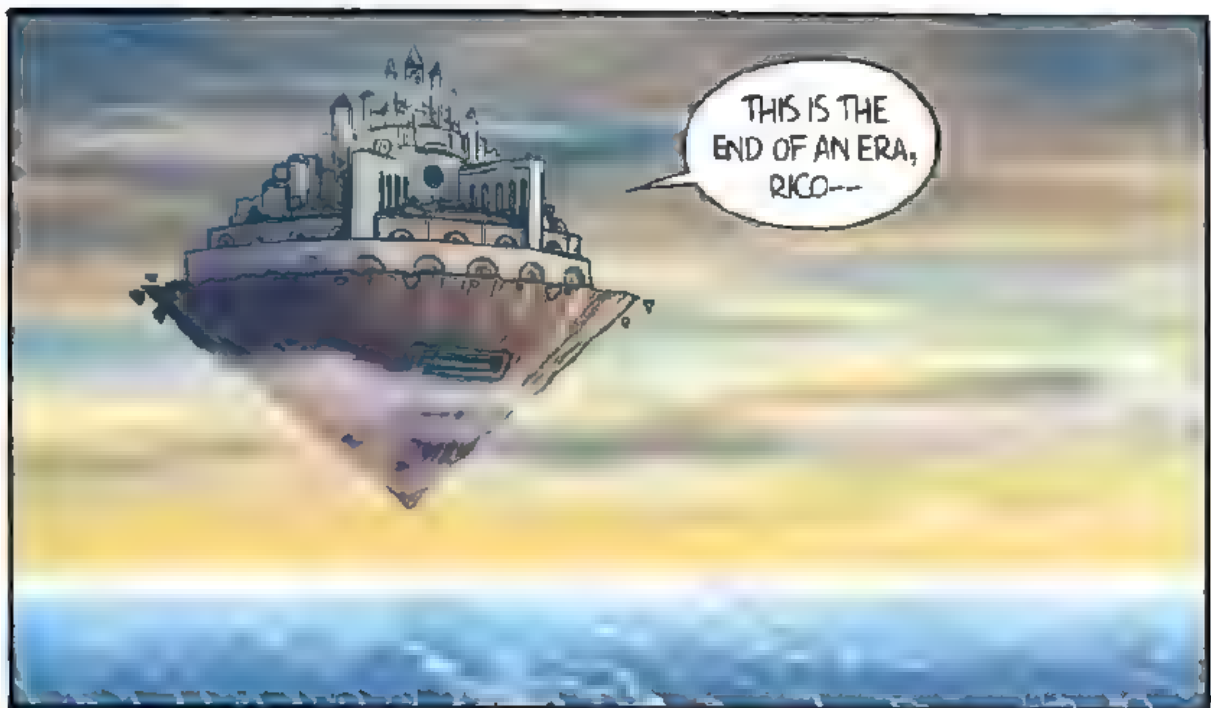
WE WILL NOT LEAN
ON UNCONTROLLABLE
POWER, SO I ASK YOU
ALL TO REVERT TO YOUR
NATURAL SELVES.



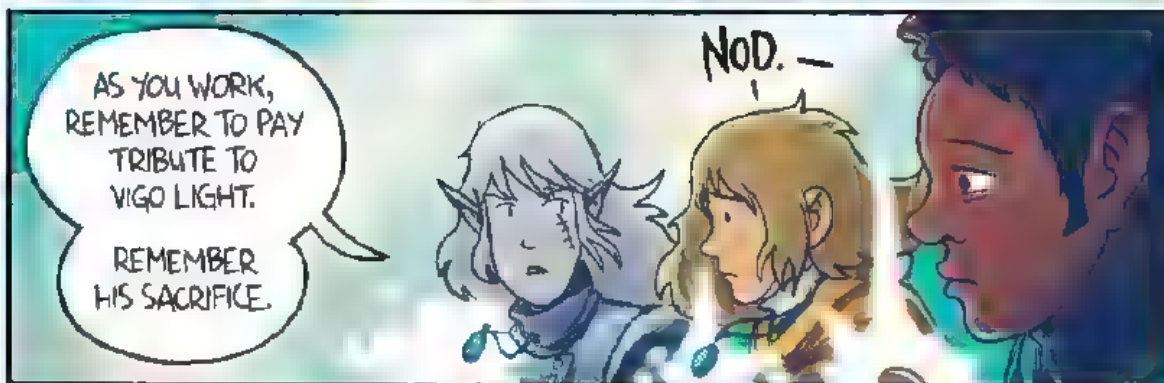


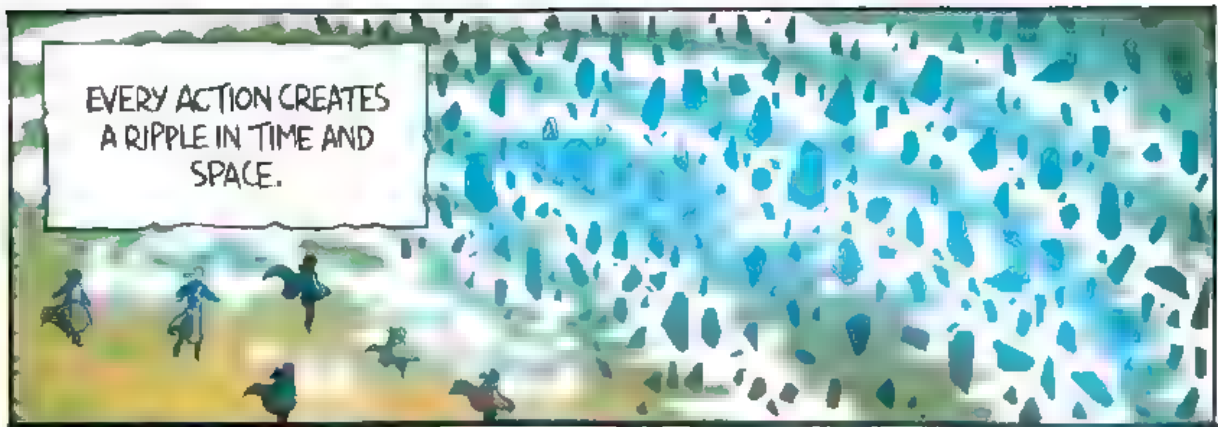
YOU MAY NO LONGER BE
THE KING OF VALCOR OR
RULER OF THE ELVES, BUT
YOU WILL LEAD US HERE IN
CIELIS AS THE ELDER
STONEKEEPER OF THE
GUARDIAN COUNCIL.











EVERY ACTION CREATES
A RIPPLE IN TIME AND
SPACE.



EACH RIPPLE HAS THE
POTENTIAL TO BECOME
A GIANT WAVE WHEN
AMPLIFIED OUT ACROSS
THE UNIVERSE.



WHAT WE DO HERE
RESONATES FAR BEYOND
OUR REACH AND VISION.

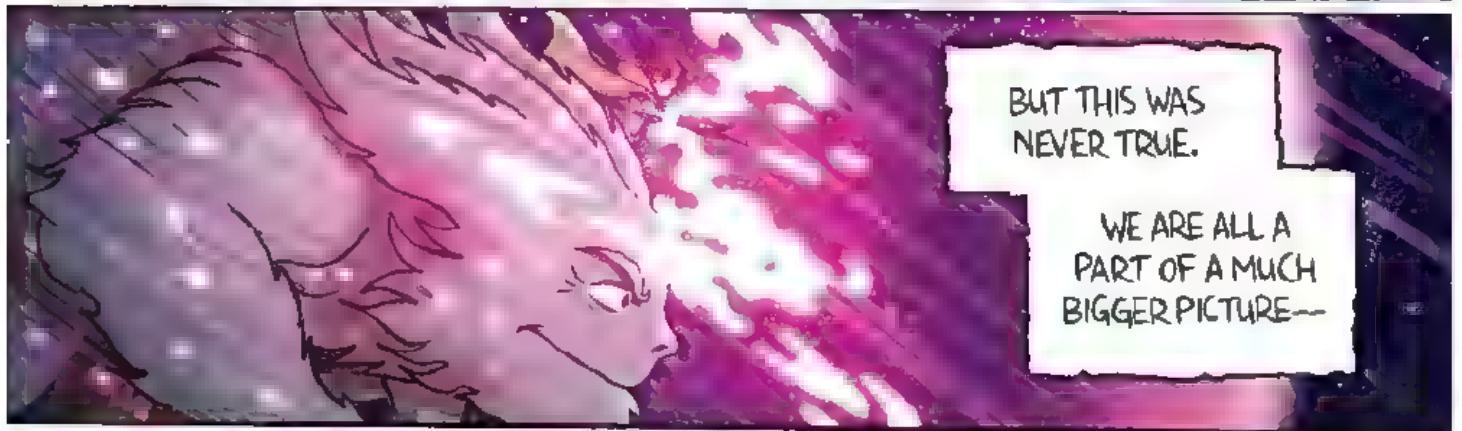


IKOL WAS A MASTER OF
LIES, BUT EVERY NOW AND
THEN HE OBSERVED THE
TRUTH.



HE USED THESE
TRUTHS TO MAKE ME
BELIEVE THAT HE
AND I WERE ALONE.

THAT THE FATE
OF THE UNIVERSE
RESTED UPON OUR
SHOULDERS.

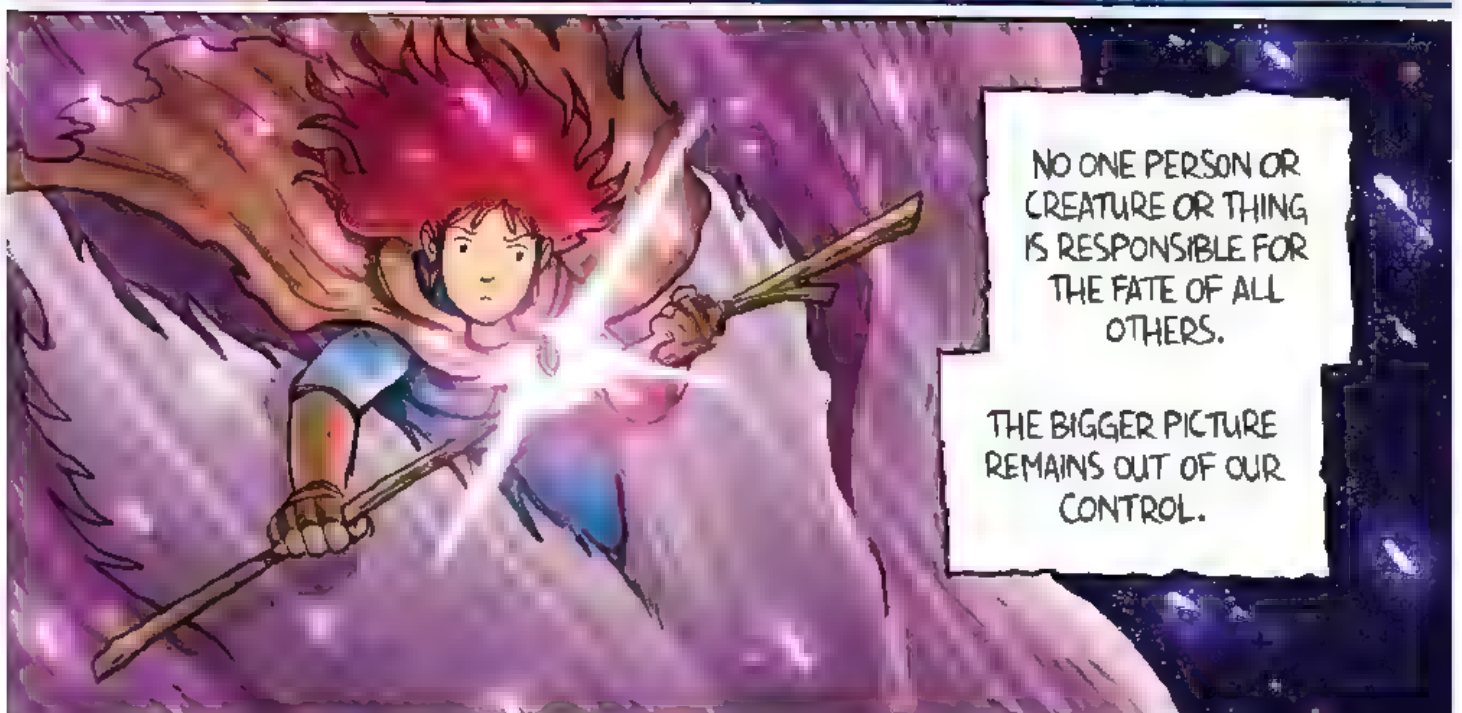


BUT THIS WAS
NEVER TRUE.

WE ARE ALL A
PART OF A MUCH
BIGGER PICTURE---



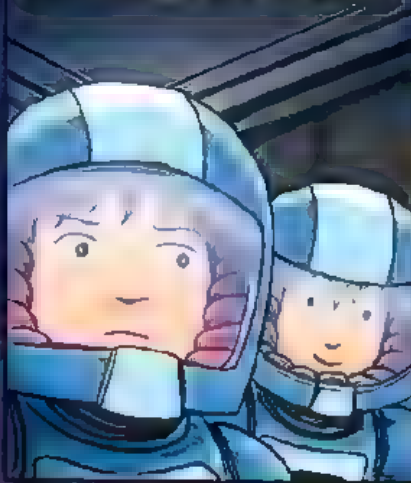
A PICTURE
THAT PAINTS
ITSELF.



NO ONE PERSON OR
CREATURE OR THING
IS RESPONSIBLE FOR
THE FATE OF ALL
OTHERS.

THE BIGGER PICTURE
REMAINS OUT OF OUR
CONTROL.

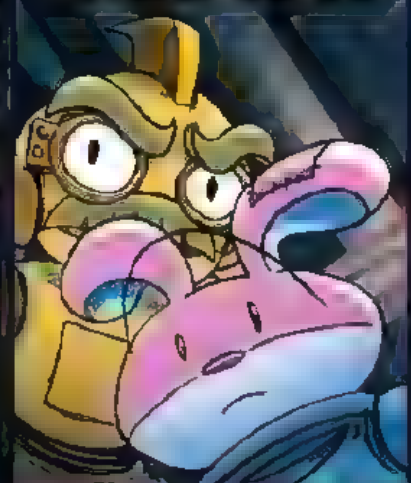
EVERY ONE OF US HAS A
PART TO PLAY.



EVEN WHEN WE ARE
WORLDS APART--



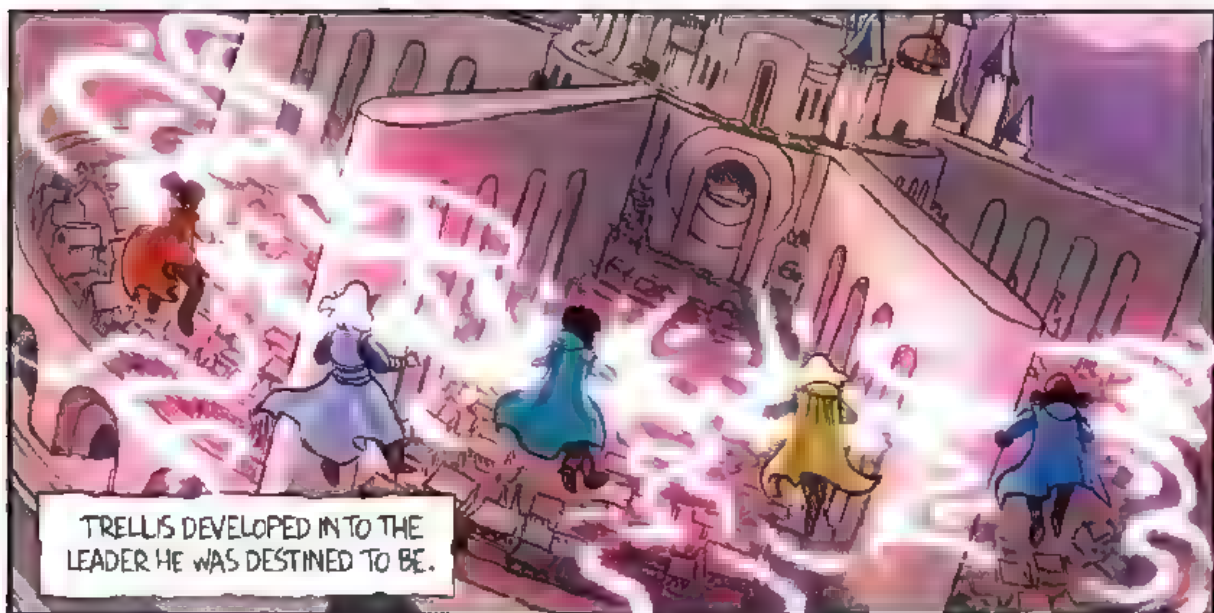
OR SEPARATED BY TIME
AND KNOWLEDGE.



WE ARE ALL A PART
OF THE PICTURE.



MY FRIENDS ON ALLEDIA
BEGAN THE LONG JOURNEY
OF BRINGING THEIR WORLD
BACK TOGETHER.



TRELLIS DEVELOPED INTO THE LEADER HE WAS DESTINED TO BE.



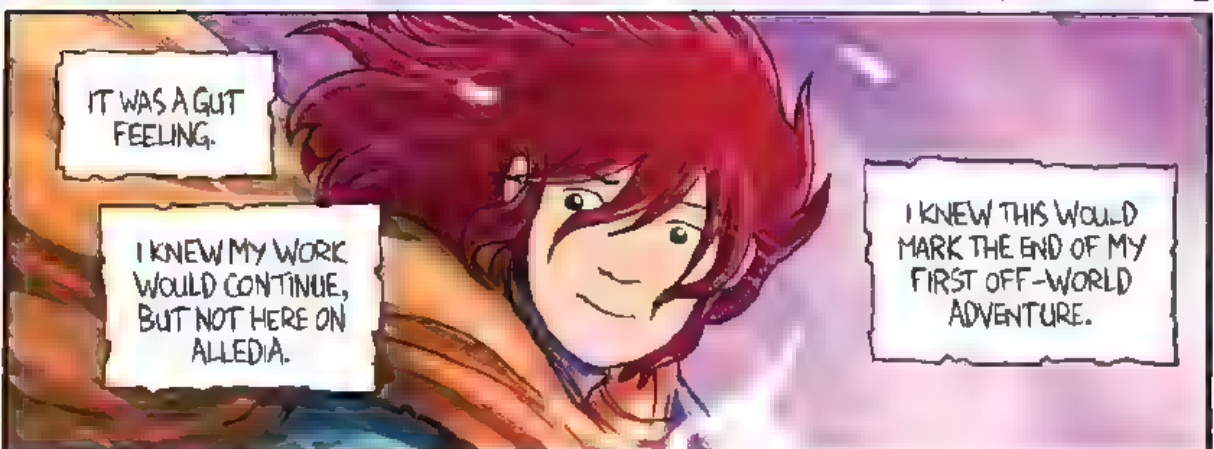
WITH RONIN'S DISCIPLES FROM THE QUARRY BY HIS SIDE, TRELLIS WOULD RULE OVER MANY YEARS OF PEACE IN ALLEDIA.



TRELLIS WOULD ASK ME TO JOIN THEM.

AS MUCH AS I WANTED TO CONTINUE MY JOURNEY WITH THE STONEKEEPERS--

I FELT THAT I COULD NOT ACCEPT.



IT WAS A GUT FEELING.

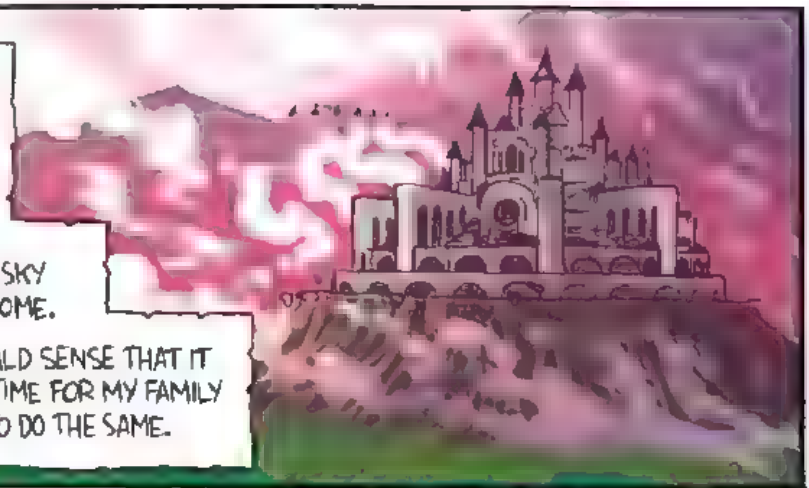
I KNEW MY WORK WOULD CONTINUE, BUT NOT HERE ON ALLEDIA.

I KNEW THIS WOULD MARK THE END OF MY FIRST OFF-WORLD ADVENTURE.

AFTER SPENDING FAR TOO MANY YEARS HIDDEN IN THE CLOUDS, THE CITY OF CIELIS HAD FINALLY RETURNED TO ITS ORIGINAL LOCATION.

THE CITY IN THE SKY HAD RETURNED HOME.

I COULD SENSE THAT IT WAS TIME FOR MY FAMILY TO DO THE SAME.

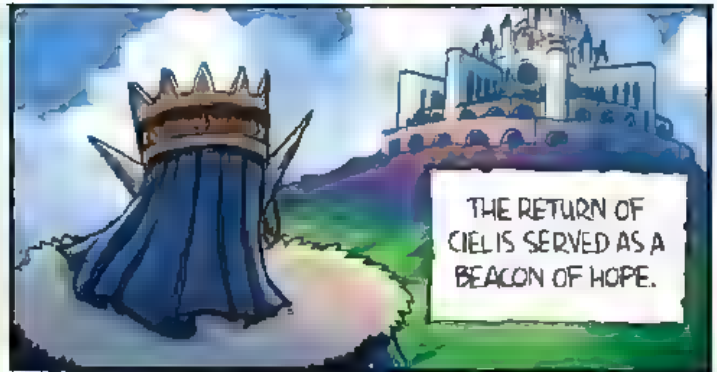


TRELLIS AND THE GUARDIAN COUNCIL WOULD HAVE PLENTY OF HELP--

WITH ALLIES LIKE KING GABILAN AND MAYOR RIVA ASH BY THEIR SIDE.



THE RETURN OF CIELIS SERVED AS A BEACON OF HOPE.



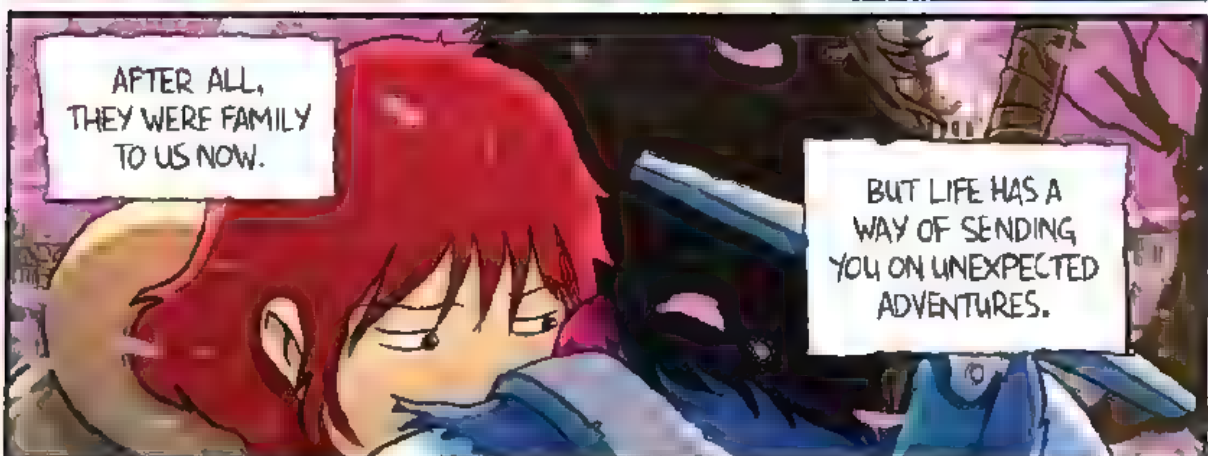
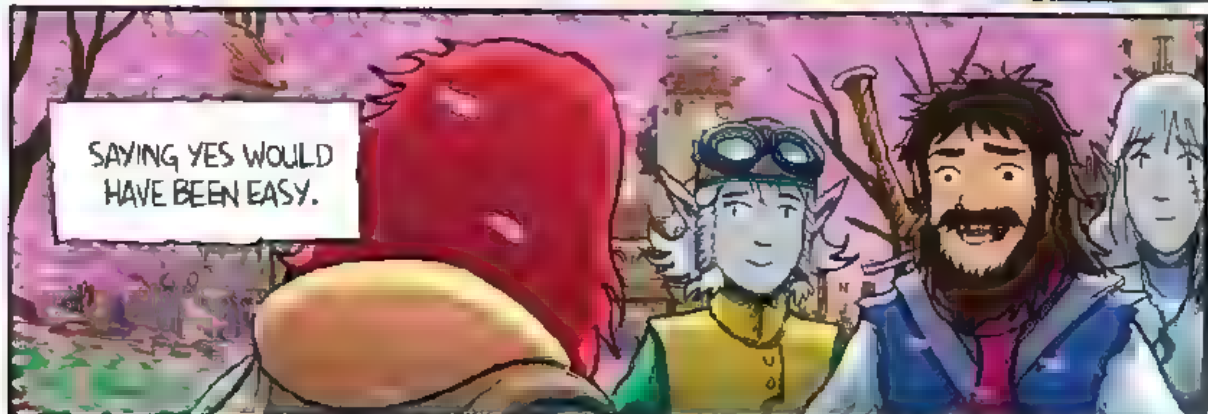
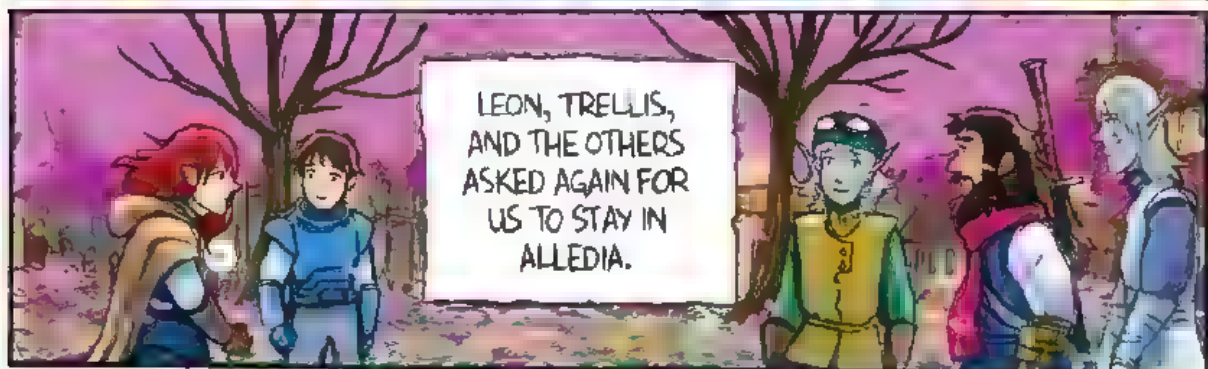
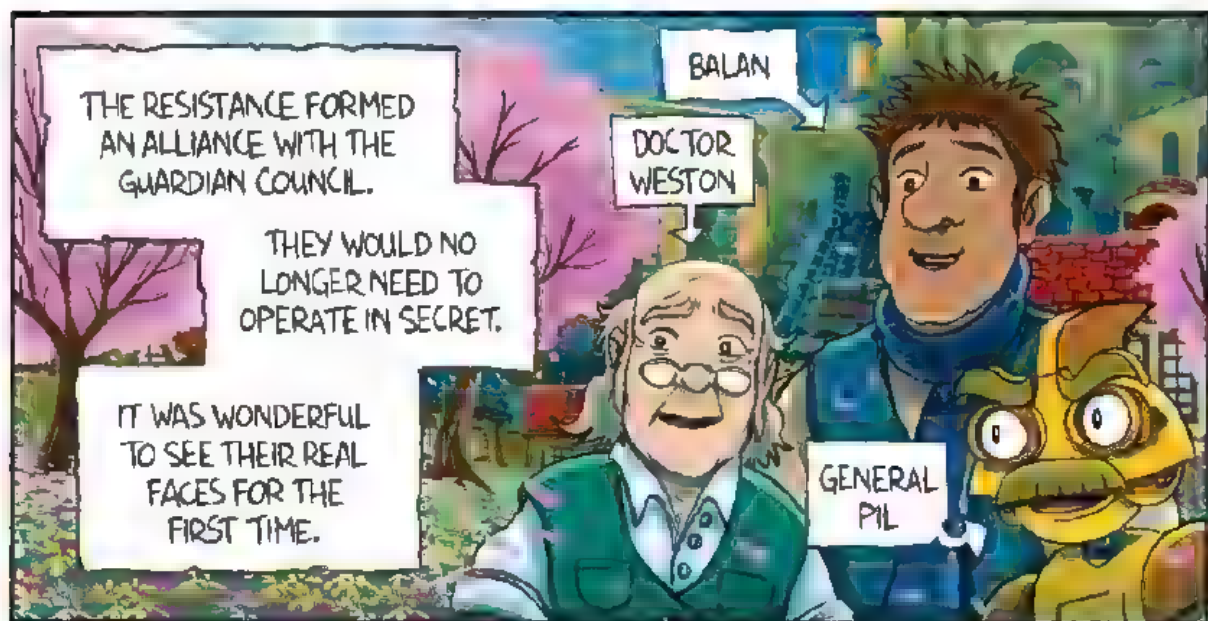
A SIGN THAT TRUE LEADERS HAD RETURNED TO ALLEDIA.



INTRODUCED THE GUARDIAN COUNCIL TO CALA AND CORA, WHO WERE QUICKLY EMBRACED AS NEW MEMBERS OF THE GROUP.

THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS WOULD BECOME THE SUBJECT OF COUNTLESS LEGENDS AND TALL TALES.







SOMETIMES ALL IT
REQUIRES IS FINDING
THE RIGHT BOOK.



IN SILAS CHARNON'S
LIBRARY, I NOTICED
ONE THAT CALLED
OUT TO ME.

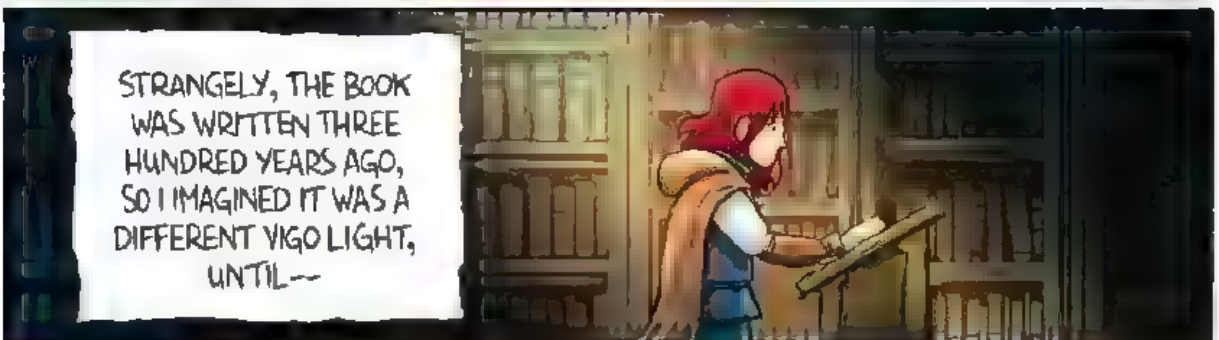


IT FEATURED THE
SYMBOL ON MY
STONE.

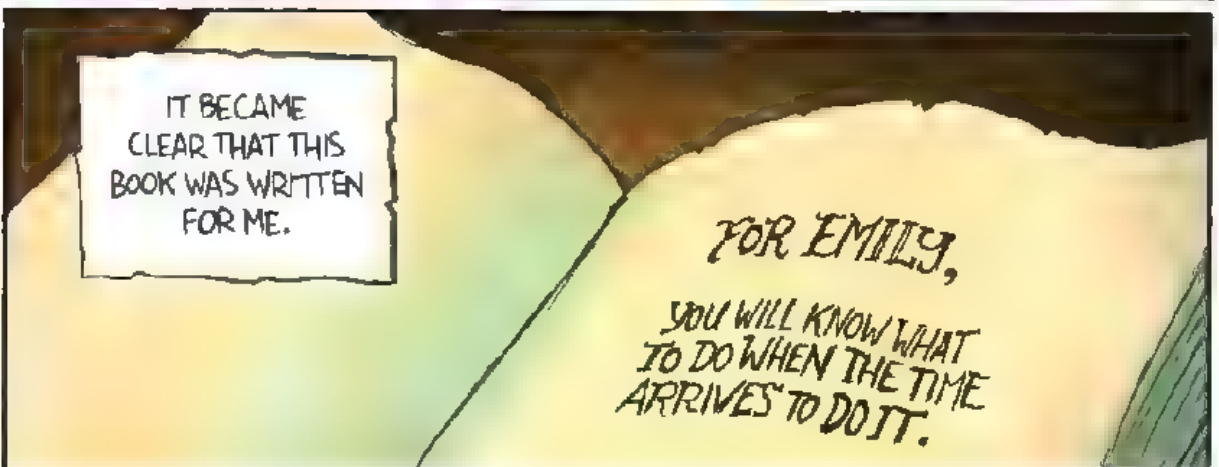
"THE BOOK OF
LIGHT"

ITS AUTHOR
WAS VIGO LIGHT.

DID VIGO WRITE
A BOOK?

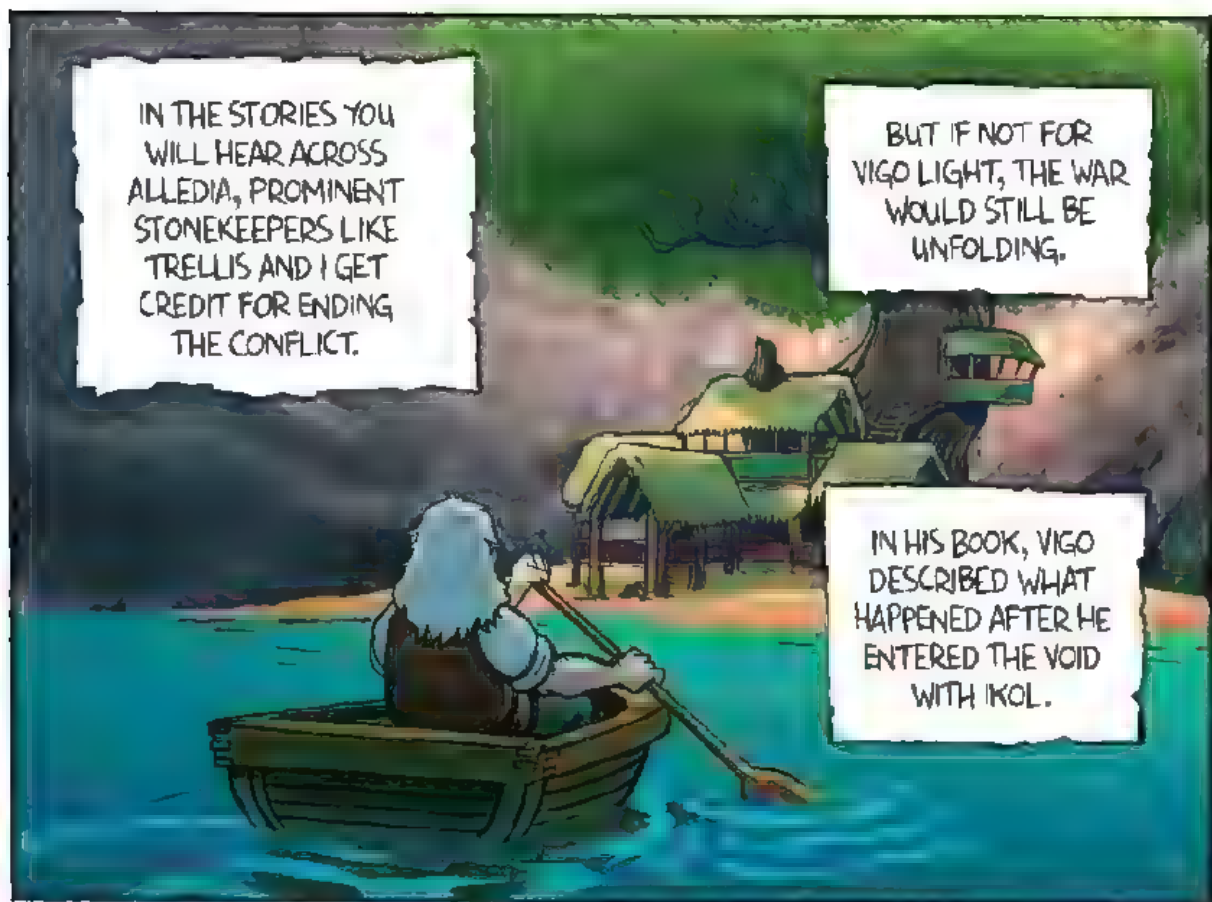


STRANGELY, THE BOOK
WAS WRITTEN THREE
HUNDRED YEARS AGO,
SO I IMAGINED IT WAS A
DIFFERENT VIGO LIGHT,
UNTIL--



IT BECAME
CLEAR THAT THIS
BOOK WAS WRITTEN
FOR ME.

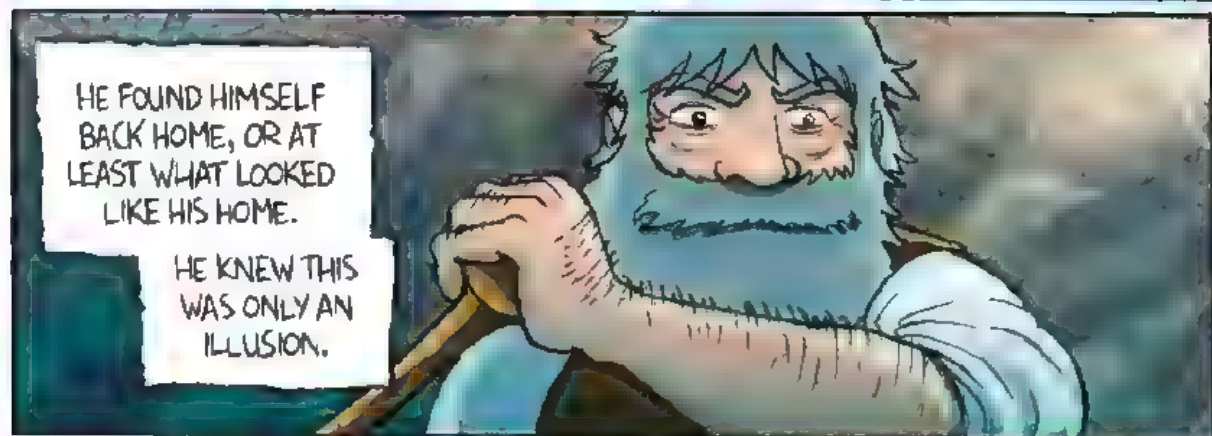
FOR EMILY,
YOU WILL KNOW WHAT
TO DO WHEN THE TIME
ARRIVES TO DO IT.



IN THE STORIES YOU
WILL HEAR ACROSS
ALLEDIA, PROMINENT
STONEKEEPERS LIKE
TRELIS AND I GET
CREDIT FOR ENDING
THE CONFLICT.

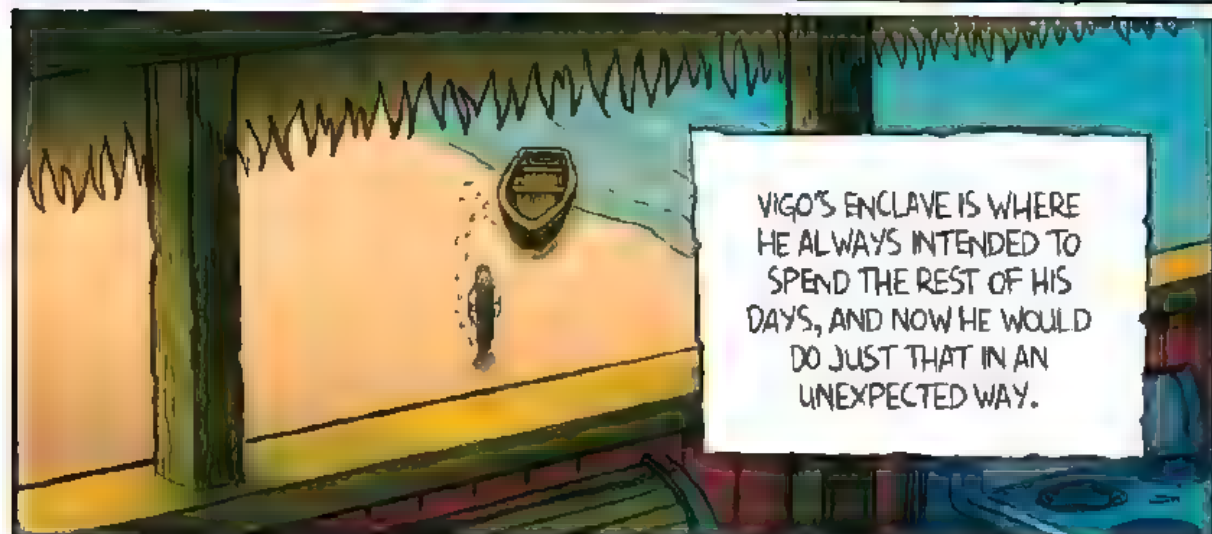
BUT IF NOT FOR
VIGO LIGHT, THE WAR
WOULD STILL BE
UNFOLDING.

IN HIS BOOK, VIGO
DESCRIBED WHAT
HAPPENED AFTER HE
ENTERED THE VOID
WITH IKOL.

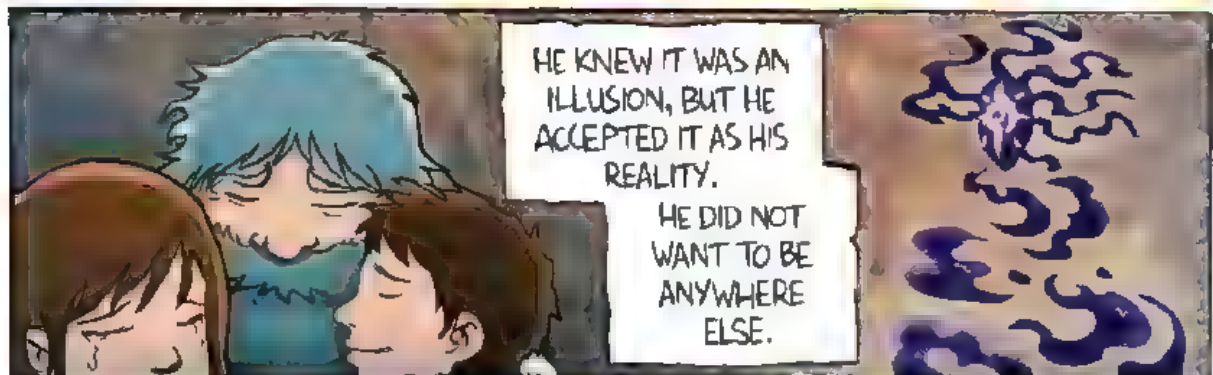
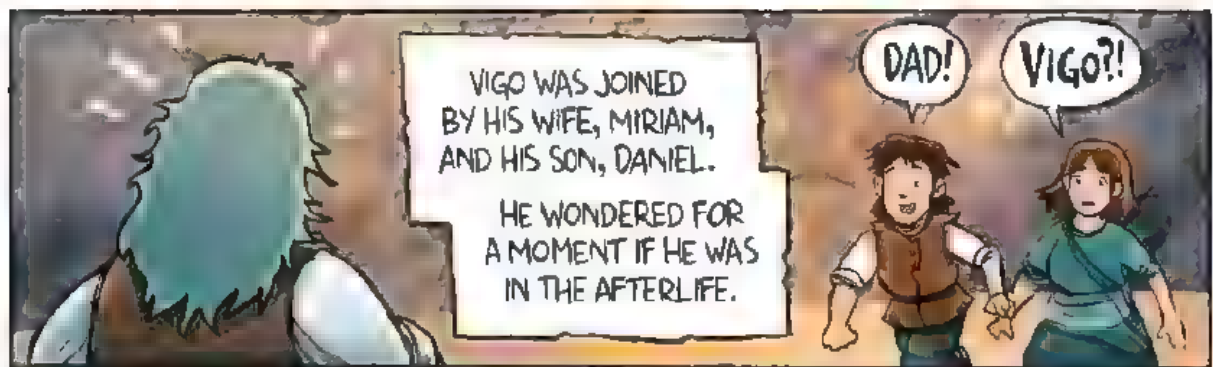
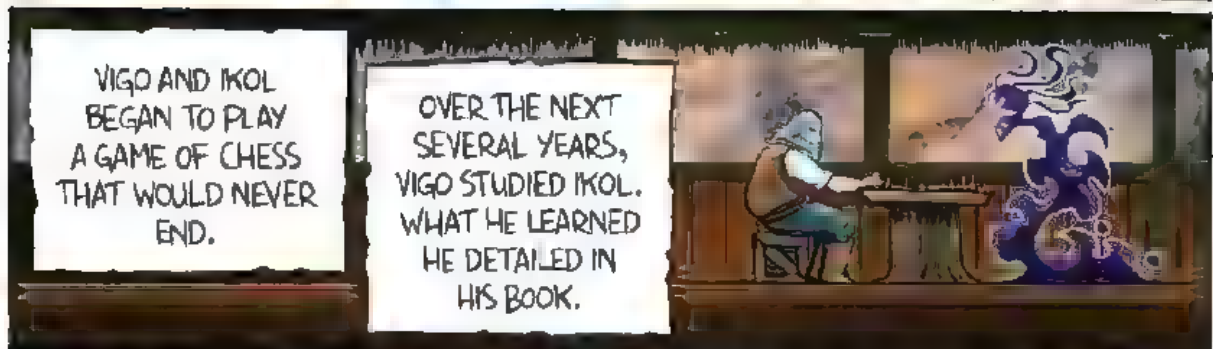


HE FOUND HIMSELF
BACK HOME, OR AT
LEAST WHAT LOOKED
LIKE HIS HOME.

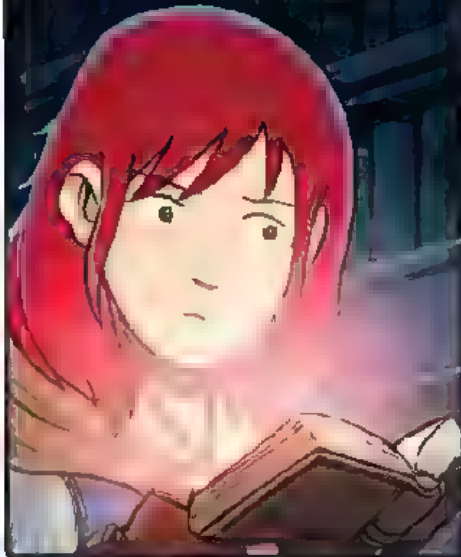
HE KNEW THIS
WAS ONLY AN
ILLUSION.



VIGO'S ENCLAVE IS WHERE
HE ALWAYS INTENDED TO
SPEND THE REST OF HIS
DAYS, AND NOW HE WOULD
DO JUST THAT IN AN
UNEXPECTED WAY.



HE DISCOVERED THAT IKOL WAS FROM EARTH, AND HE PONDERED THE REASONS WHY ANYONE WOULD CREATE SOMETHING SO DESTRUCTIVE.



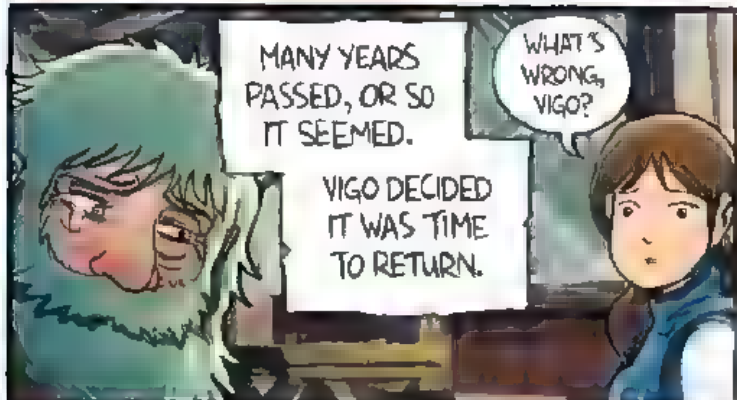
IKOL TOLD VIGO THAT IT WAS HUMAN NATURE TO CREATE THINGS LIKE HIM. IT WAS IKOL'S BELIEF THAT HIS DESTRUCTIVE NATURE MADE HIM MORE HUMAN.



MANY YEARS PASSED, OR SO IT SEEMED.

WHAT'S WRONG, VIGO?

VIGO DECIDED IT WAS TIME TO RETURN.



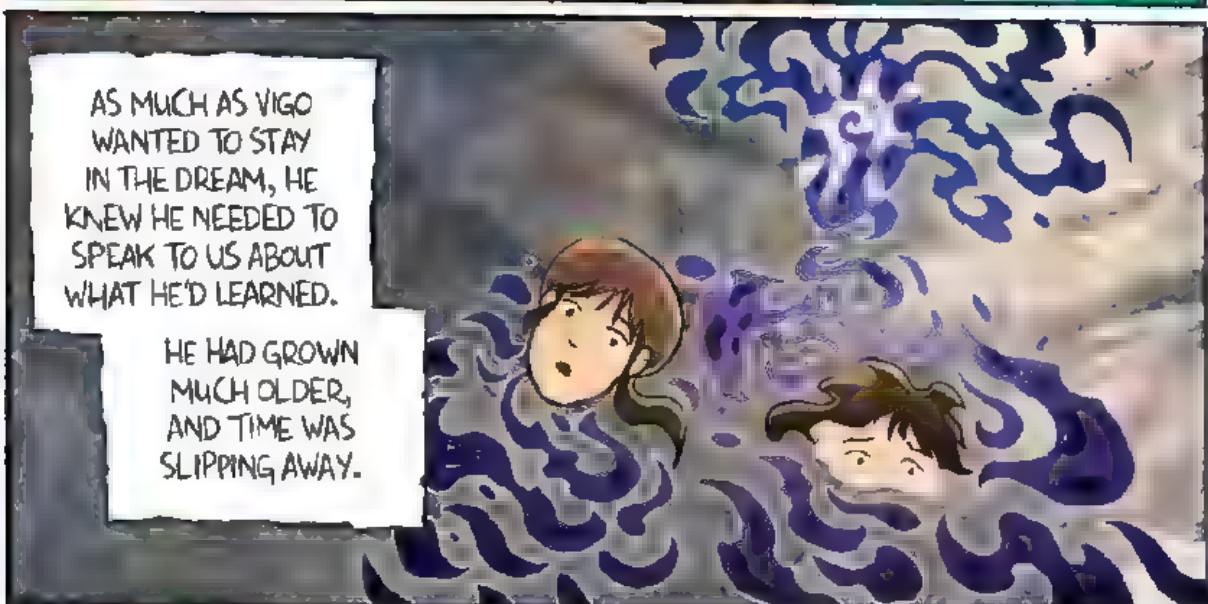
MUCH OLDER NOW, VIGO VENTURED OUT OF HIS ENCLAVE.

HE LEFT THE BEAUTIFUL ILLUSION BEHIND.



AS MUCH AS VIGO WANTED TO STAY IN THE DREAM, HE KNEW HE NEEDED TO SPEAK TO US ABOUT WHAT HE'D LEARNED.

HE HAD GROWN MUCH OLDER, AND TIME WAS SLIPPING AWAY.





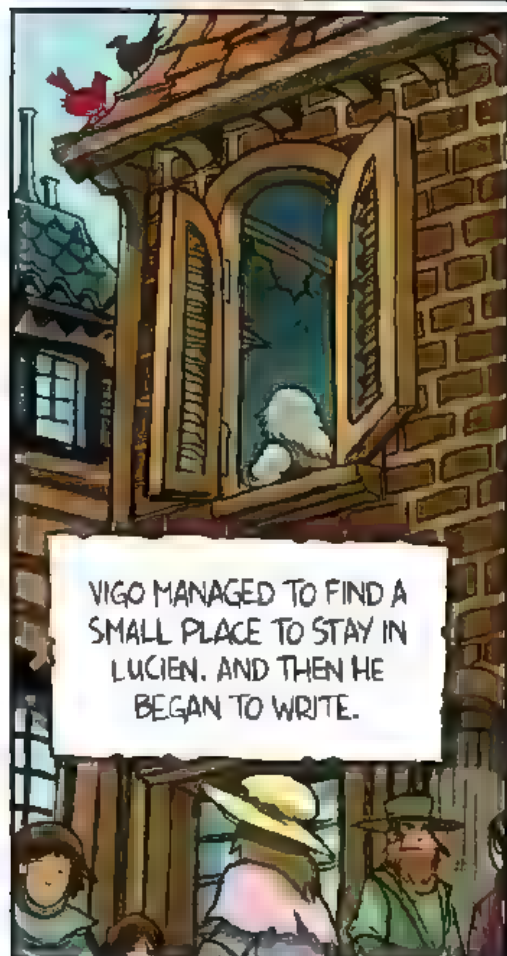
WHEN VIGO RETURNED FROM THE VOID, ALLEDIA SEEMED DIFFERENT.

HE SOON REALIZED THAT HE HAD TRAVELED THREE HUNDRED YEARS INTO THE PAST.

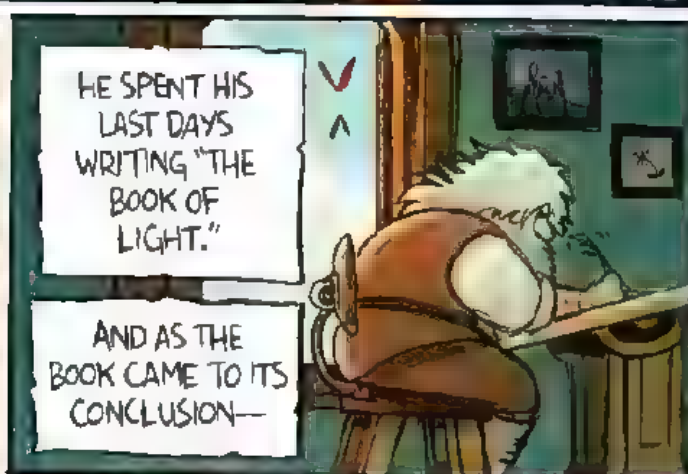


HE COULD FEEL HIS LIFE NEARING ITS END.

HE HAD TO TRY TO COMMUNICATE WITH US IN SOME WAY...

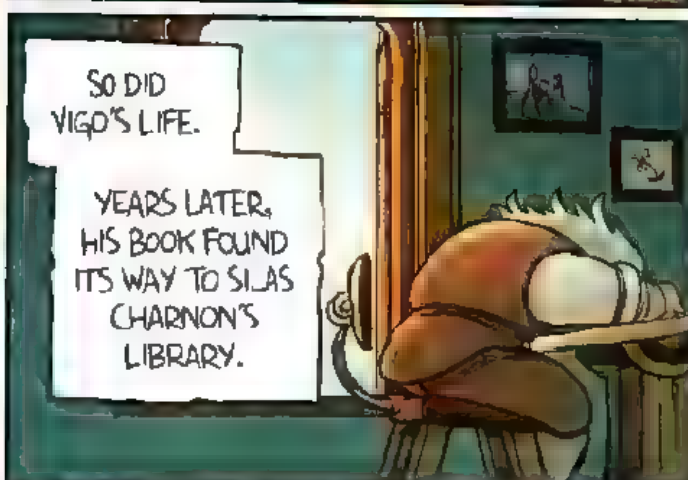


VIGO MANAGED TO FIND A SMALL PLACE TO STAY IN LUCIEN. AND THEN HE BEGAN TO WRITE.



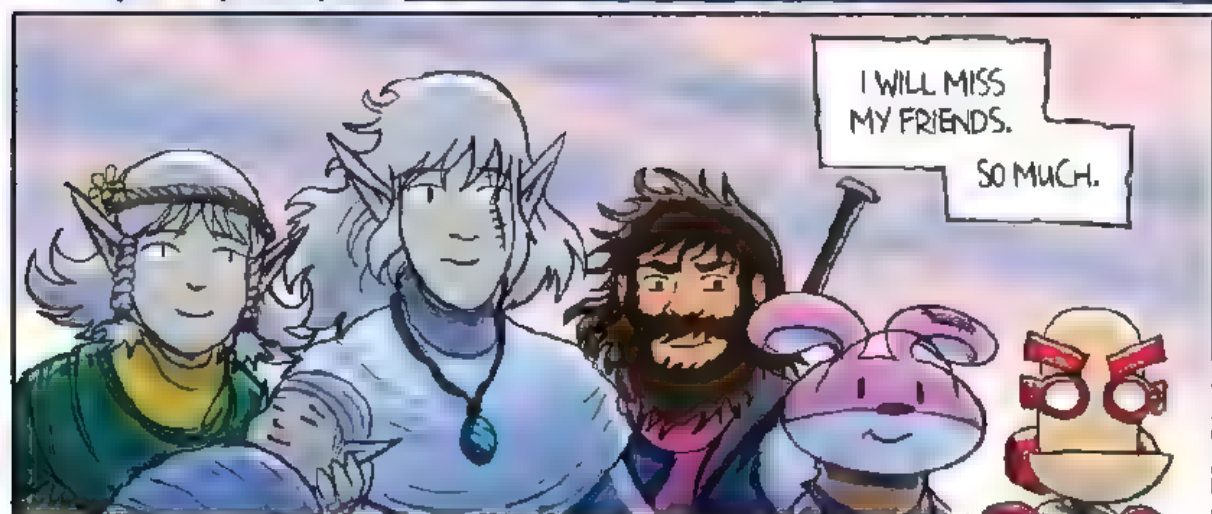
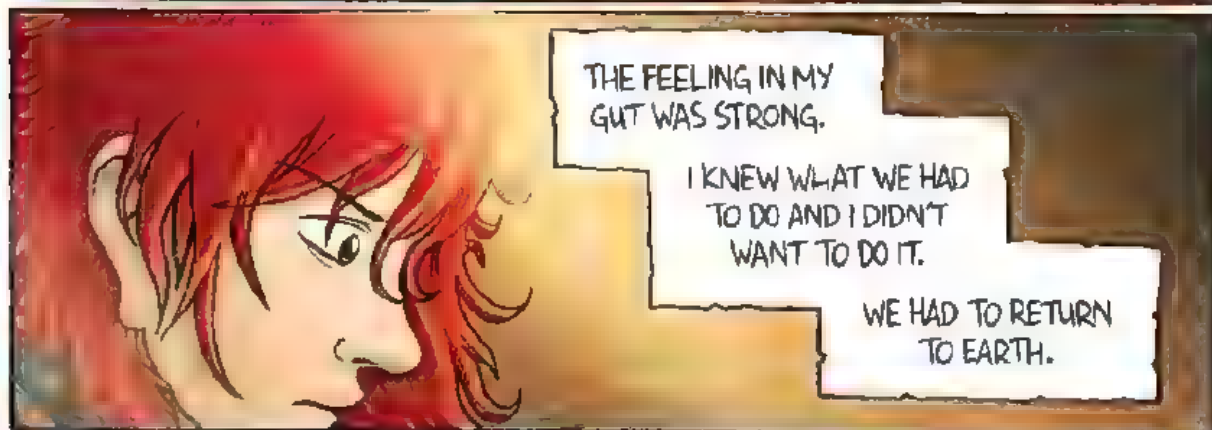
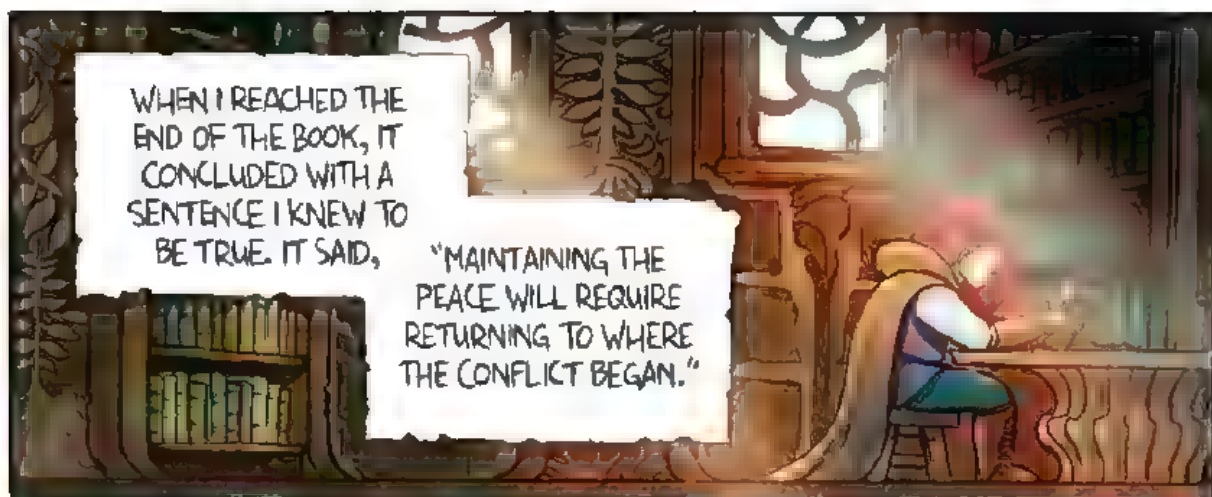
HE SPENT HIS LAST DAYS WRITING "THE BOOK OF LIGHT."

AND AS THE BOOK CAME TO ITS CONCLUSION—



SO DID VIGO'S LIFE.

YEARS LATER, HIS BOOK FOUND ITS WAY TO SILAS CHARNON'S LIBRARY.



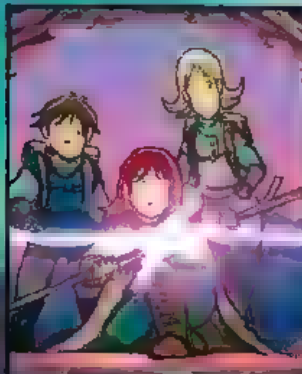
WE SAID OUR GOODBYES IN A CASUAL WAY, AS THOUGH WE WERE ONLY PARTING FOR A SHORT TIME, BUT WE KNEW IT WASN'T TRUE.



I WILL NEVER FORGET THEM.

WE JOURNEYED BACK INTO THE CAVERNS INSIDE DEMON'S HEAD MOUNTAIN.

BACK TO THE BEGINNING.



PLACES THAT HAD ONCE SEEMED DANGEROUS AND ALIEN TO US NOW FELT FAMILIAR.

IT WAS ALL SO BEAUTIFUL AND SERENE.

WE COULD WALK THROUGH ANY STRANGE NEW LAND WITHOUT FEAR IN OUR HEARTS.

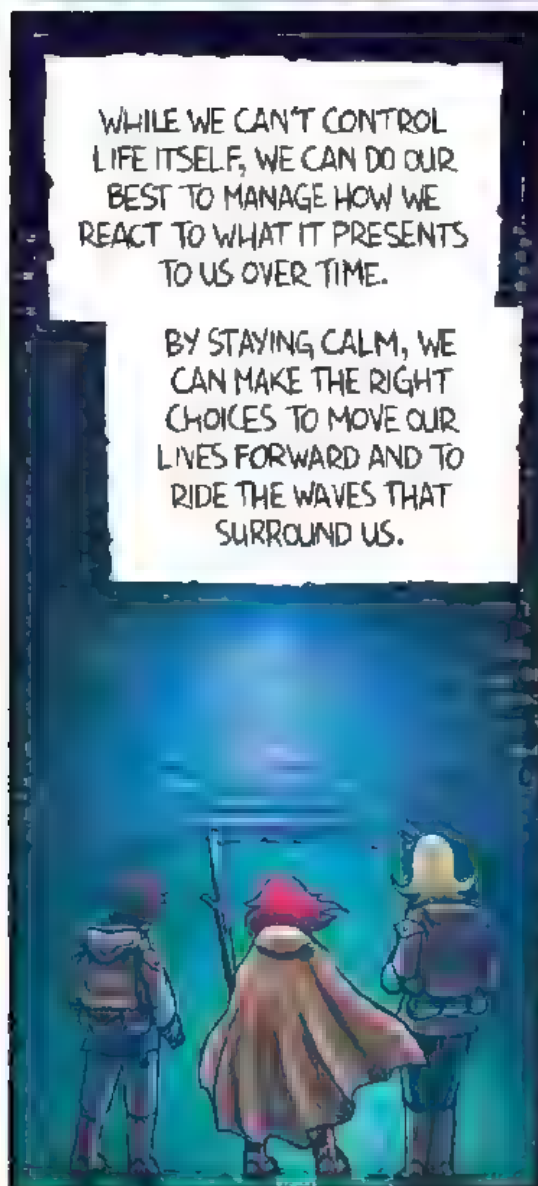
IN PLACE OF FEAR WE FELT A LOVE FOR LIFE AND ITS MANY ADVENTURES.





WHEN WE BEGAN OUR JOURNEY, I FELT AS IF OUR LIVES WERE SPINNING OUT OF OUR CONTROL.

WHAT I LEARNED OVER THE YEARS IS THAT LIFE IS ALWAYS EBBING AND FLOWING, FROM GOOD DAYS TO BAD ONES.

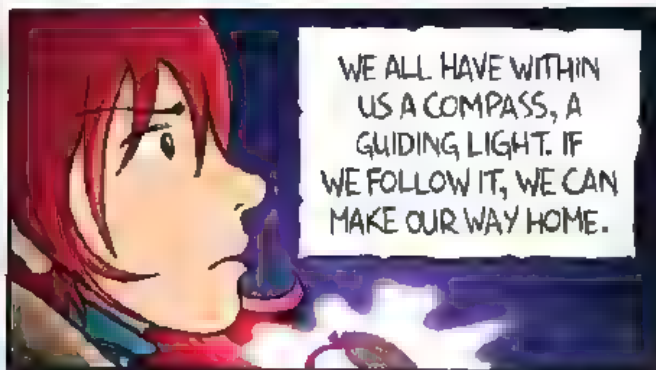


WHILE WE CAN'T CONTROL LIFE ITSELF, WE CAN DO OUR BEST TO MANAGE HOW WE REACT TO WHAT IT PRESENTS TO US OVER TIME.

BY STAYING CALM, WE CAN MAKE THE RIGHT CHOICES TO MOVE OUR LIVES FORWARD AND TO RIDE THE WAVES THAT SURROUND US.



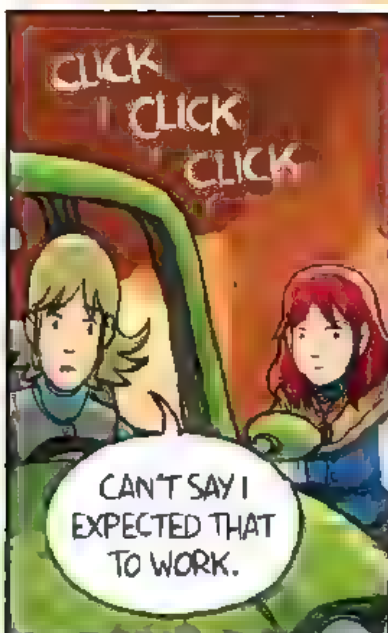
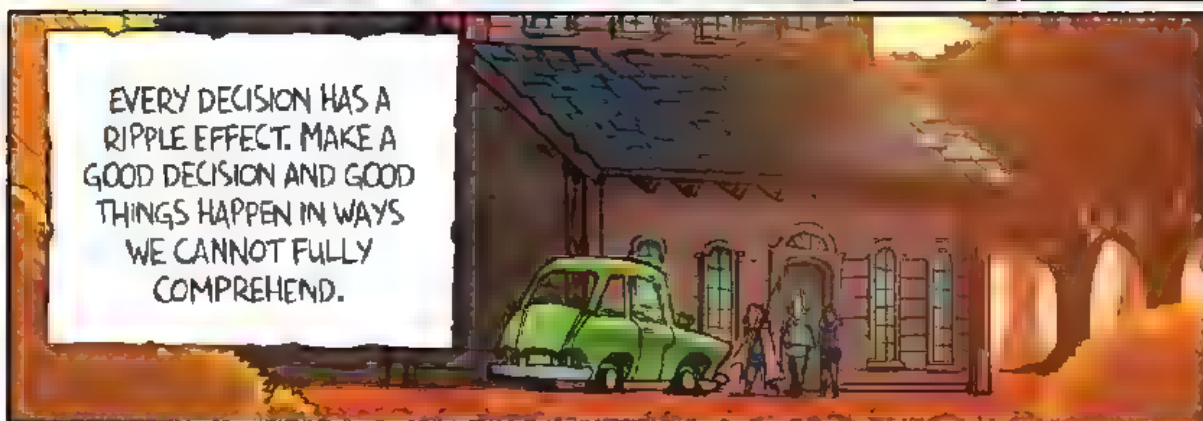
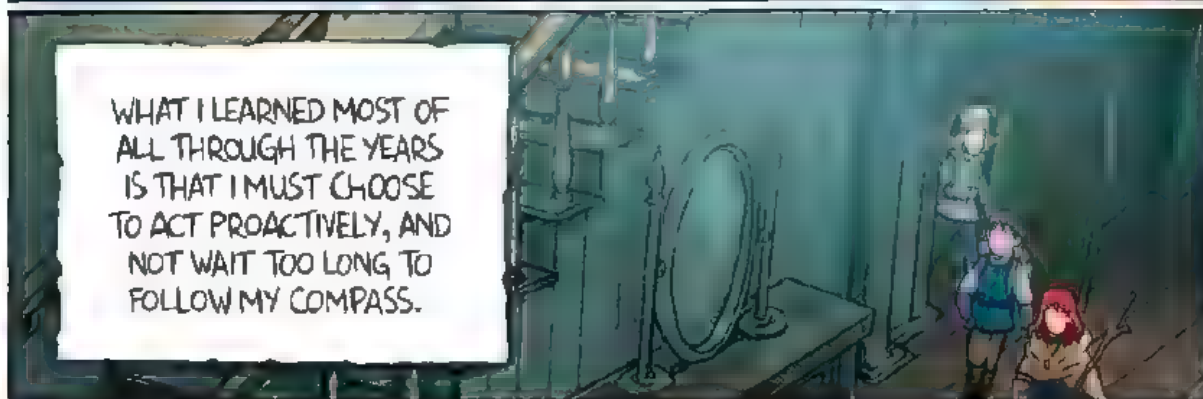
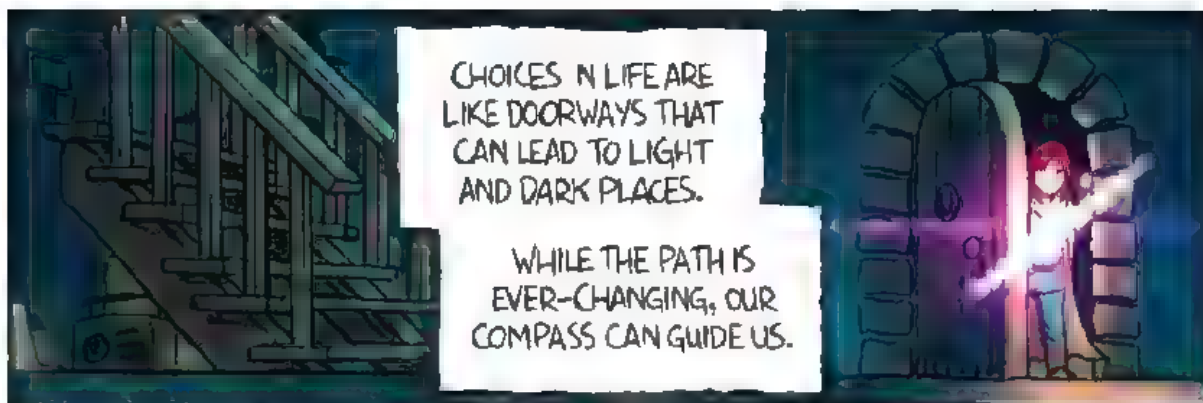
EVEN IN THE MOST TRYING TIMES, YOU CAN FIND LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS.



WE ALL HAVE WITHIN US A COMPASS, A GUIDING LIGHT. IF WE FOLLOW IT, WE CAN MAKE OUR WAY HOME.



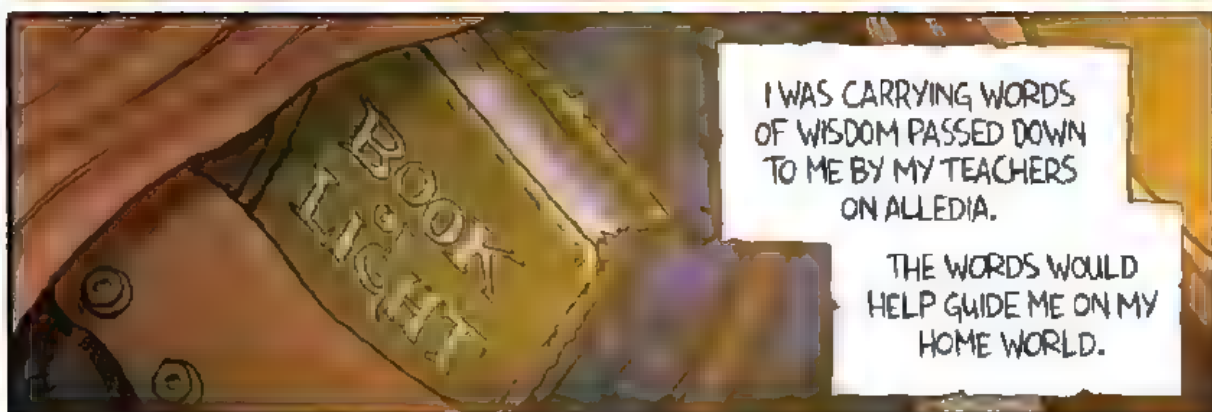
BUT IT REQUIRES A WILLINGNESS TO LISTEN.





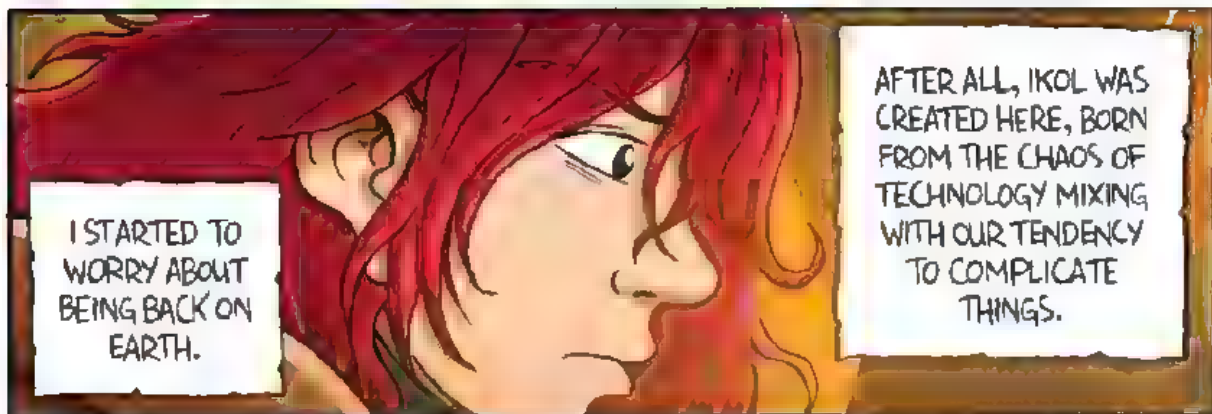
I DON'T KNOW WHY I SUGGESTED
IT IN THAT MOMENT, BUT THE
DECISION TO WALK WOULD PROVE
TO BE CONSEQUENTIAL.

I REMEMBER SO MANY
DETAILS FROM THAT
MOMENT IN TIME.



I WAS CARRYING WORDS
OF WISDOM PASSED DOWN
TO ME BY MY TEACHERS
ON ALLEDIA.

THE WORDS WOULD
HELP GUIDE ME ON MY
HOME WORLD.



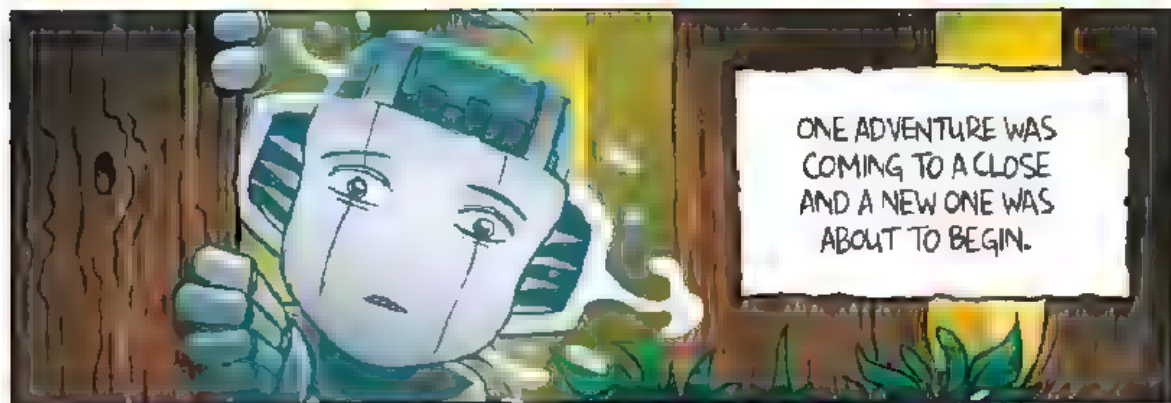
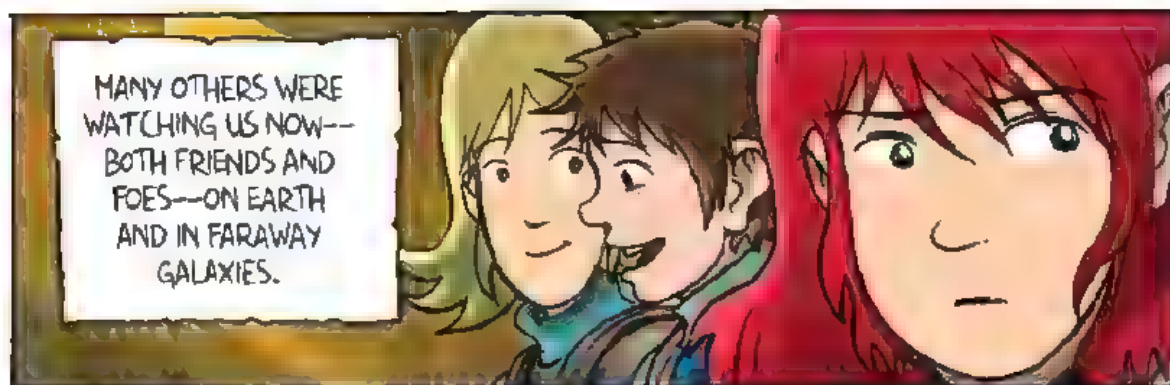
I STARTED TO
WORRY ABOUT
BEING BACK ON
EARTH.

AFTER ALL, IKOL WAS
CREATED HERE, BORN
FROM THE CHAOS OF
TECHNOLOGY MIXING
WITH OUR TENDENCY
TO COMPLICATE
THINGS.

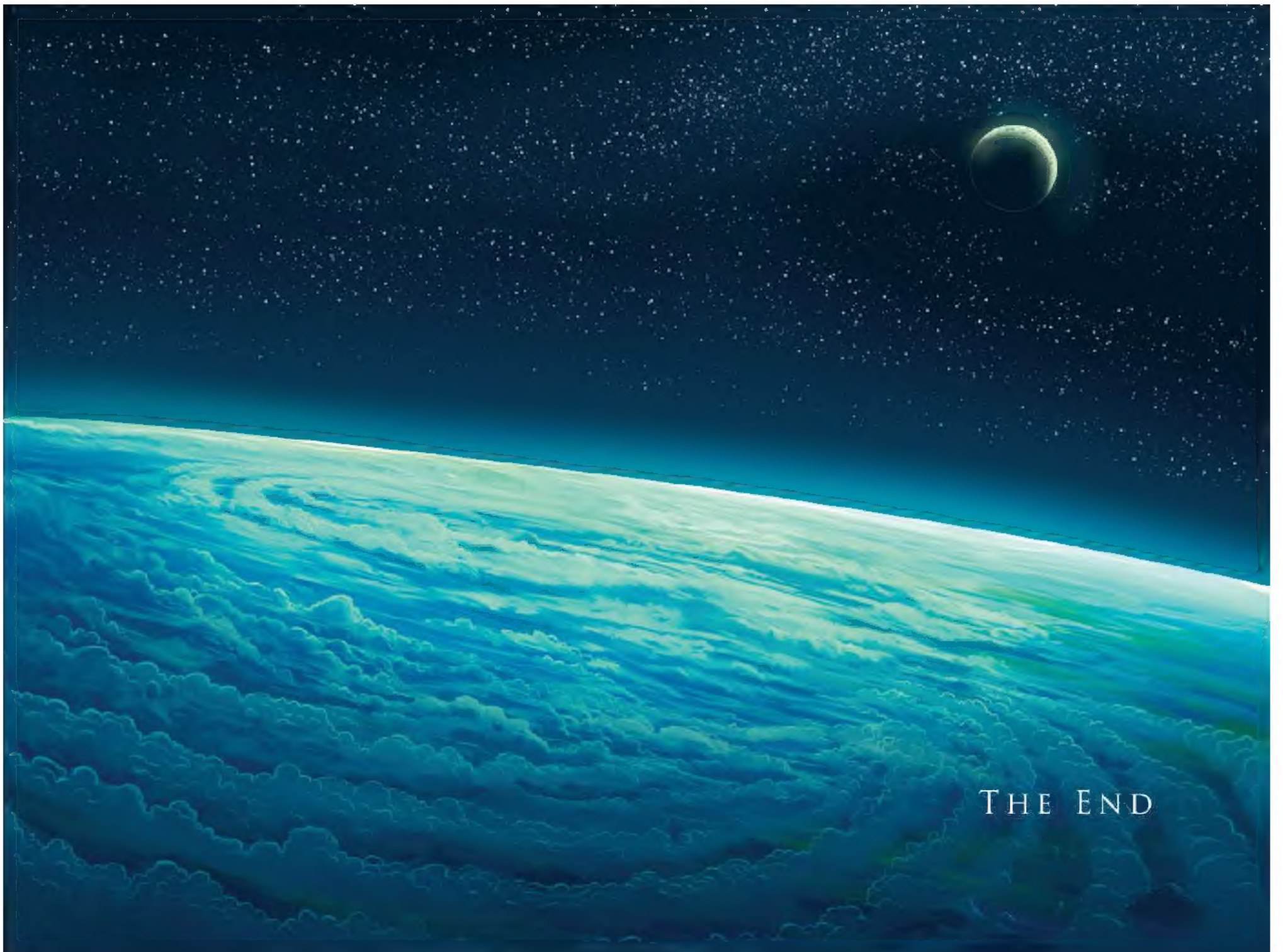


I MUST REMEMBER
TO WALK CAREFULLY
AND FOLLOW MY
COMPASS.

CRUNCH!







THE END



